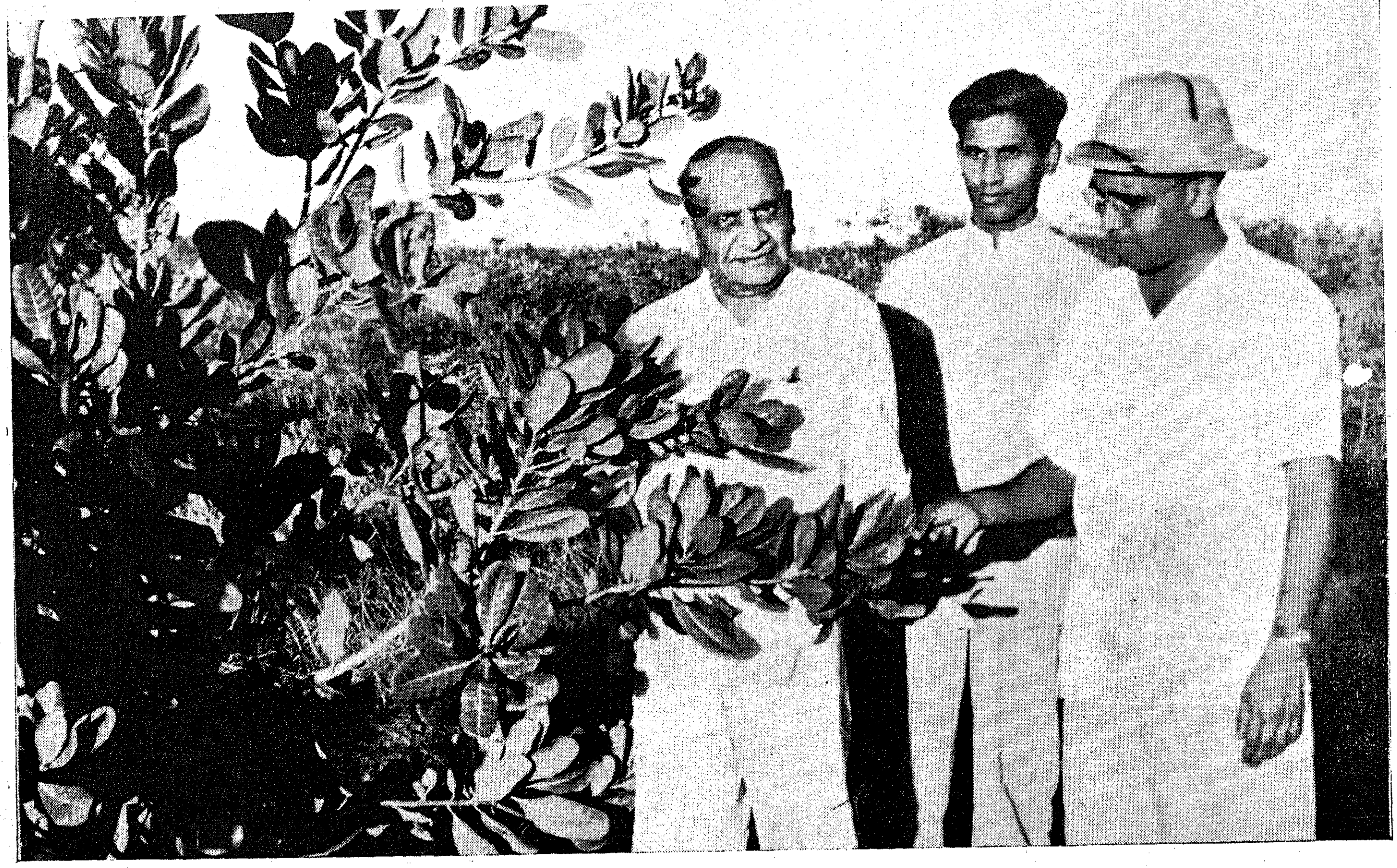
MADRAS INFORMATION

14 JUL 1958

JULY, 1958



Sri Punjabrao Deshmukh paid a visit to the Cashew plantation near Vandalur.

" We Seek to Serve
and
Not to Compete "

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Cover page:

A view of the A.V.M. canal in Kanyakumari district.

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Vol. XII, No. 7 July 1958

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
1. Getting the best out of our Forests.	2
2. Agriculture to the Fore	3
3. Know Your District—Ramanathapuram.	6
4. Save Your Cattle and Save Yourselves.	10
5. Community Development set-up to be remodelled.	12
6. Community Development Movement in India.	14
7. Science on the March	20
8. Value of Green Fodder	21
9. In the month of June	28

Extracts from the inaugural speech of Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Home and Agriculture, at the Fifth Meeting of the Forest Utilisation Advisory Board at Ootacamund.

Our State has lost considerable forest area as a result of reorganisation of States. The need for utilisation of the available land including lands outside the Reserve Forests is therefore extremely important and urgent. There is a scheme in the Second Five-Year Plan forconducting a Reconnaissance. Survey of the eroded lands outside the reserve for ests. This work has been completed in the Chingleput district and will soon be taken up in other districts. The data collected as a result of the survey will be the basis of future schemes for raising village plantations and for schemes of soil conservation. It is hoped it will be possible to undertake extensive plantation in the villages in the third and fourth Five-Year Plans. In pursuance of the recommendation of the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission, it is also proposed to set up a Board for the rationalisation of land use and this proposal is under active consideration of the Government.

Timber and Fuel.

The Government are aware of the scarcity of timber and fuel in the State. In certain places timber and firewood prices have shot up after the reorganisation of States. The Forest Department is however maintaining a strong vigil and proper action is taken to relieve the scarcity as a long-term measure. The Department has taken up regeneration of dry fuel forest, and planting of various timber species.

It is proposed to grow teak on 1,166 acres during the year 1958-59. It is also proposed to explore the possibility of growing good quality teak in the Gandamanaickenur ex-zamin forest, and in Kanyakumari and Tirunelveli districts. It is also proposed to raise irrigated plantations of teak over 316 acres near Hallur Halla in Coimbatore district. Teak is also being raised on river and canal fringes in Tanjore district.

Cashew.

We have been very successful in raising cashew to rehabilitate the degraded panchayat forests. Cashew grows in areas of low-rainfall, in a variety of soils and is a good soil binder. The fleshy pericarp of the fruit, is eaten and from it we can also obtain power alcohol. The Kernel of the nut is a valuble doller earner. From the shell an oil is obtained which is used in many chemical industries. It is proposed to raise cashew over 45,000 acres in Chingleput and South Arcot districts during the period of the Second Five-Year Plan.

Wattle and Softwood.

Wattle plantations are also being raised on a large scale in the State. The area targetted is 3,000 acres in Kodaikanal, Nilgiris and 1,750 acres in Anamalais and besides smaller areas in Anamalais and Shevaroys. Wattle is a short-rotation crop and is expected to yield both tan bark and wood which can be converted into Alpha Cellulose, Rayon, etc. It is hoped that ultimately this State will be able to supply 20,000 tons of wattle bark and one lakh tons of wattle wood annually. Schemes for utilising wattle wood for chip boards and rayon pulp are under consideration.

Another important scheme is the matchwood plantations. It is proposed to raise softwood over about 2,000 acres during 1958-59. These plantations will go a long way towards relieving the increasing demand for matchwood for the many cottage industries.

Lac and Rubber.

The Second Plan includes also a scheme for the development of lac cultivation. It is proposed to set up a number of brood farms in Madurai district and to inoculate a large number of host trees. The Lac factory has also been shifted to Cumbum and I hope the lac products of this factory will be able to meet local demands.

There is a proposal to plant rubber on a large scale in Kanyakumari district. The Working Plan Officer, Tirunelveli (South) Division has been asked to stock-map all Revenue porombokes suitable for growing rubber. It is estimated that an area of 3,500 acres may be available for rubber plantations. A detailed scheme will be drawn up after the areas are stock-mapped. When the plantations grow up it will be possible to set up industries which require the latex of rubber as a raw material.

Substitute for solid timber.

It is an unfortunate fact that in our country we are still depending upon the solid timber for all our requirements while in foreign countries they make use of composite woods on a large scale. We should take to using processed materials for various purposes, e.g., furniture, doors, windows, ceilings and partitions, etc. Wood waste can be used satisfactorily in large constructions The development of satisfactory and cheap roofing materials is the key to the solution of the problem of low-cost housing and due attention should be paid to this.

Wood Seasoning.

It is well known that good quality timber is not so plentiful in our State and therefore we have to take to using secondary timbers. The newt echniques of timber seasoning should be tried on a large scale after experimentation in the forest Research Institute. The new method of " oscillatory seasoning " may be tried on the inferior woods available in this State. Suitable methods of injecting preservatives into various timber species should also be popularised and we should strive to make the different species of timber equally useful. Efficiency in the use of timber can be achived by researches in timber engineering. This consists in the assembling of small dimensional pieces of wood to build up vast structures like

radio towers, aeroplane hangers and factory trusses, through the use of timber connectors, laminated structures and improved systems of nailing. This field is as yet new to our country. By using timber pieces of smaller dimensions we can ensure fuller utilisation of the timber log and we can avoid several defects like cracks, etc. Since our national needs were at no time greater or more urgent than at present, we shall utilise our limited timber resources to the utmost capacity and to the maximum extent.

Forestry Museum.

We had a very good Forestry Museum at Coimbatore, but it has been transferred to the Government of India, along with the Forest College estate. As the public are not generally aware of the importance of forests and the various methods of forest utilisation, the Government have sanctioned the establishment of a Forest Museum at Madras attached to the Chief Conservator's office.

Agriculture to the Fore

By Sri C. R. SESHADRI,
Joint Director of Agriculture (Planning and Development).

Progress of agricultural schemes during 1957–58 *and programme for* 1958–59 *under the Second Five-Year Plan.*

Our country in general and Madras State in particular has been deficient in foodgrains. During the Second World War, a special Grow More Food campaign was launched to increase the food production in the State to meet the deficit caused by stoppage of imports. After the attainment of independence, agricultural production was given the highest importance in the First Five-Year Plan. Due to strenuous efforts made by the Agricultural Department the over-all production of rice increased from 23 lakhs tons in 1951 to about 31 lakhs tons in 1955.

Under the Second Five-Year Plan emphasis has been laid on all-round increase in the production of food as well as cash crops. It was originally proposed to increase the production of cereals by 7 lakhs tons at the end of the Plan period over and above the production achieved during the First Five-Year Plan. In view of the urgent need for stepping up the production still further, the targets were increased after a good deal of discussion at all levels. The revised target of foodgrains fixed for our State is an additional production of 12·65 lakhs tons. Schemes are also directed towards stepping up production of cotton by 1·50 lakhs bales, oil-seeds by 1·66 lakhs tons and sugarcane by 10 lakhs tons over 1955–56 level of production. Schemes have also been formulated for the development of coconut, cashewnut, tobacco and fruit cultivation in our State.

A lonely path in a forest.

The achievements so far recorded under the Second Plan may be considered satisfactory though they have not come up to expectations. The schemes for multiplication and distribution of improved seeds are the most important ones in the agricultural sector of the Second Plan, as these are responsible for increasing the yield by 10 to 15 per cent. It was claimed in 1956 that more than 50 per cent of the paddy area in the State was covered by the improved strains that roughly 25 lakhs acres were still to be covered by them. Nearly 4 lakhs acres in 1956–57 and about 7 lakhs acres in 1957–58 were covered by improved strains. Since the pace of multiplication and distribution of paddy strains are expected to get accelerated with the starting of State Seed Farms balance of area acres under local varieties is sure to be saturated with improved strains by the end of 1960. Regarding millets no appreciable progress could be made during 1956–57. However, more than 1·5 lakhs acres have been brought under improved strains during 1957–58. About 11·48 lakhs acres for paddy and 4·2 lakhs acres for millets are targeted to be covered by improved strains during 1958–59.

A total of 154 State Seed Farms has so far been opened and yet another 206 farms are expected to be started before the end of the current year. When all the 360 farms are established it will be possible to produce substantial quantity of primary seeds of improved strains of crops for further multiplication and distribution on what are called "Village Seed Farms" run by ryots on their holdings. The village seed farm seeds are either exchanged for ordinary grain or sold for cash.

The Japanese method of paddy cultivation which is gaining popularity among the ryot is also an important item of improvement which aims at further increasing paddy yields. The main features of this new method are intensive manuring of seed beds, selection and use of good pedigree seeds, treatment of seed to eliminate chaff disease, thin sowing of seed beds and planting in lines in heavily manured fields followed later by systematic interculture and topdressing. This intensive method of cultivation is estimated to result in an additional yield of 130 lb. of paddy per acre. It has been programmed to cover an area of nearly 47·45 lakhs acres with this improved agronomic practice. An area of 6·92 lakhs acres in 1956–57 and another 10 lakhs acres in 1957–58 have been brought under the Japanese method. The target fixed for 1958–59 is 30 lakhs.

Madras leads the way in the utilisation of organic manures. As a result of the intensive work done by the Agricultural Department it was estimated that during 1955–56, the green manure crops covered as much as 1·3 million acres. (Green manuring is estimated to cost only a fraction of what it would cost if nitrogenous fertilisers alone are used and its use leaves no deleterious effects on the soil.) Under the Second Plan it has been targeted to cover an area of 3·81 million acres by the end of 1960–61. About 599 tons of green manure seeds were distributed during 1956–57. A similar quantity has also been distributed during 1957–58. A quantity of 1,140 tons of green manure seeds has been targeted for 1958–59. The Agricultural Department is also concentrating its attention on the campaign for compost making. The bulk of farm yard manure and cattle dung as also habitation wastes are now being converted into valuable compost through rural and urban compost schemes. About 2·11 lakhs tons of urban compost and 1·06 lakhs tons of rural compost were distributed during 1957–58. The targets fixed for 1958–59 are 3·58 lakhs tons of urban compost and 0·81 lakh tons of rural compost. The scheme for development of nightsoil compost is a recent introduction and 1·50 lakhs tons of nightsoil compost has been targeted to be manufactured and distributed during 1958–59. These compost manures are expected to give an additional yield of 280 lb. per acre.

Under the Plan, 3 lakhs acres of crops and one lakh trees are expected to be treated for control of pests and diseases each year. Since considerable incentive has been given for plant protection work by way of concessional sales of chemicals and equipment nearly lakhs acres have been protected against the ravages of pests and diseases during 1957–58. In addition nearly two lakhs fruit and economic trees have been treated.

Under soil conservation too, the Agricultural Department has made considerable progress. About 14,818 acres in 1956–57 and 16,876 acres in 1957–58 have been tackled by the department under soil conservation. An area of 26,000 acres will be tackled during 1958–59. Under land reclamation an annual target of 32,500 acres has been fixed. There are at present 142 tractor units with the department. An area of 24,400 acres during 1956–57 and another area of 17,847 acres in 1957–58 were ploughed by these tractors.

Among the several irrigation schemes, the Agricultural Department is concerned with River Pumping Scheme and Filter Point Tube Well Scheme. It has been targeted to have six River Pumping units and 600 Filter Points each year of the Plan period. No progress could be made under the River Pumping schemes so far and only a few schemes are being taken up. Difficulty in fixing proper location and securing the co-operation of the ryots of the locality are the contributory factors for the poor progress under this scheme. During 1956–57, a total of 507 filter point wells were sunk successfully and in 1957–58 about 311 Filter Points have been sunk.

The purchase and distribution of better varieties of cotton seeds has been one of the main items of work done by the department. The five year target of additional production for cotton is 1·5 lakhs bales over the production in 1955–56. As against the target of 40,000 bales fixed for 1956–57, only 31,600 bales could be achieved. Similarly about 51,853 bales are estimated to have been obtained in 1957–58 as against the target of 69,000 bales fixed for the year. The short fall has been due to adverse seasonal conditions in some of the cotton areas. The target fixed for 1958–59 is 97,000 bales of cotton.

The work on development of oil-seeds like groundnut, gingelly and castor has also been intensified under the Plan. About 14,808 tons of oil-seeds in 1956–57 and 22,061 tons in 1957–58 were estimated to have been achieved. The target fixed for 1958–59 is 40,580 tons. It has been programmed to have an additional production of 70,000 tons of oil-seeds by the end of the Plan period. A supplemental scheme to achieve a further target of additional production of 96,000 tons of oil-seeds by intensifying work in project areas has since been sanctioned and is being implemented.

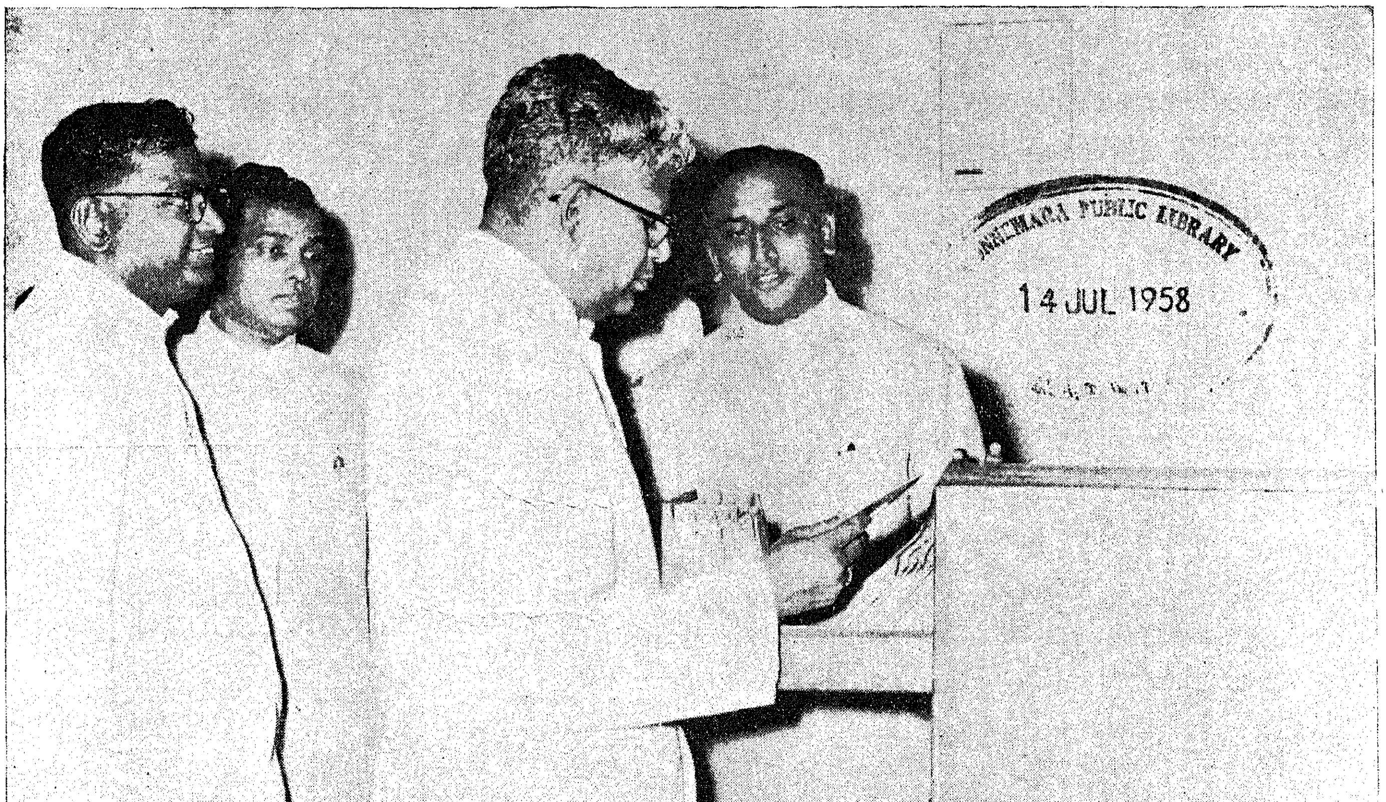
Our endeavour under the Second Plan is also directed towards increasing sugarcane yield by 10 lakhs tons by the end of 1960–61 over the 1955–56 level of production at the rate of 2 lakhs tons per year. The targets fixed for 1956–57 and 1957–58 have happily been reached. It has been proposed to increase the target for 1958–59.

The development of cashewnut is another important item of work proposed to be implemented in 1958–59. Since the extension of cultivation of this crop will not only help to earn foreign exchanges for the country as a whole but also benefits the State by way of increased employment opportunities for the people, steps have been taken to popularise the cultivation of the crop in areas available for the purpose. A comprehensive coconut nursery scheme for the production of seedlings for supply to growers has also been taken up by the department. Another scheme for developing the horticultural wealth of this State is also being implemented.

We have also undertaken some important research schemes under the Second Plan. The chief among them is the establishment of full-fledged research station for sugarcane at Cuddalore. Research on tobacco, investigation of betel-vine wilt disease and improvement of gur manufacture and storage are some of the other research schemes taken up by the Department.

In order to meet the demands for trained agricultural personnel to man all the agricultural schemes, the admissions to the Agricultural College at Coimbatore have been increased from 108 to 162 with effect from 1956. Since the need for skilled workers required for implementing fruit development programmes is keenly felt, a six-month training course for training of 50 gardeners is conducted at the Agricultural College and Research Institute, Coimbatore, from July each year. A college for providing up-to-date post graduate teaching in agriculture leading to the M.Sc. and Ph.D. Degrees is also proposed to be started this year at the Agricultural College and Research Institute, Coimbatore.

Agricultural research for improving cultural practices and for evolving improved strains of all crops has raleady been undertaken by the department. Results obtained as a result of research are passed on to the farmers through our Agricultural Information unit, specially created for the purpose.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Sri R. Venkataraman, Minister for Industries and Labour, paid a visit to the Kanyakumari District Employment Office at Nagercoil in May.

Know Your District:

Ramanathapuram

The Ramanathapuram district lies between 9° 5′ and 10° 25′, of the northern latitude and 77° 20′ and 79°28′ of the eastern longitude. This district was constituted in 1910, portions of the old Madurai and Tirunelveli districts having been taken to form the new district. It is bounded on the north by the districts of Madurai, Tiruchirappalli and Tanjore, on the east by the Palk Bay, and on the south by the Gulf of Mannar and Tirunelveli district. The United States of Travancore and Cochin abuts the district on the west, on its south-western corner. It has an area of 4,825 square miles. It stretches from the Western Ghats to the Bay of Bengal. The district consists of nine taluks comprised in three revenue divisions.

The taluks of Srivilliputtur and Sattur formed part of the old Tirunelveli district. The remaining seven taluks, Aruppukottai, Sivaganga, Tiruppattur, Tiruvadanai, Ramanathapuram, Mudukulathur and Paramakudi formed part of Madurai district. The seven taluks were formerly comprised in the two zamindaris—Ramanathapuram and Sivaganga. The two zamindaris cover an area of 3,708 square miles out of the total area of 4,825 square miles of the district. The greater part of the district is unsurveyed and unsettled as it consists mainly of zamin villages. The zamindari areas were taken over by the Government in the year 1949 and survey and settlement operations are now in progress.

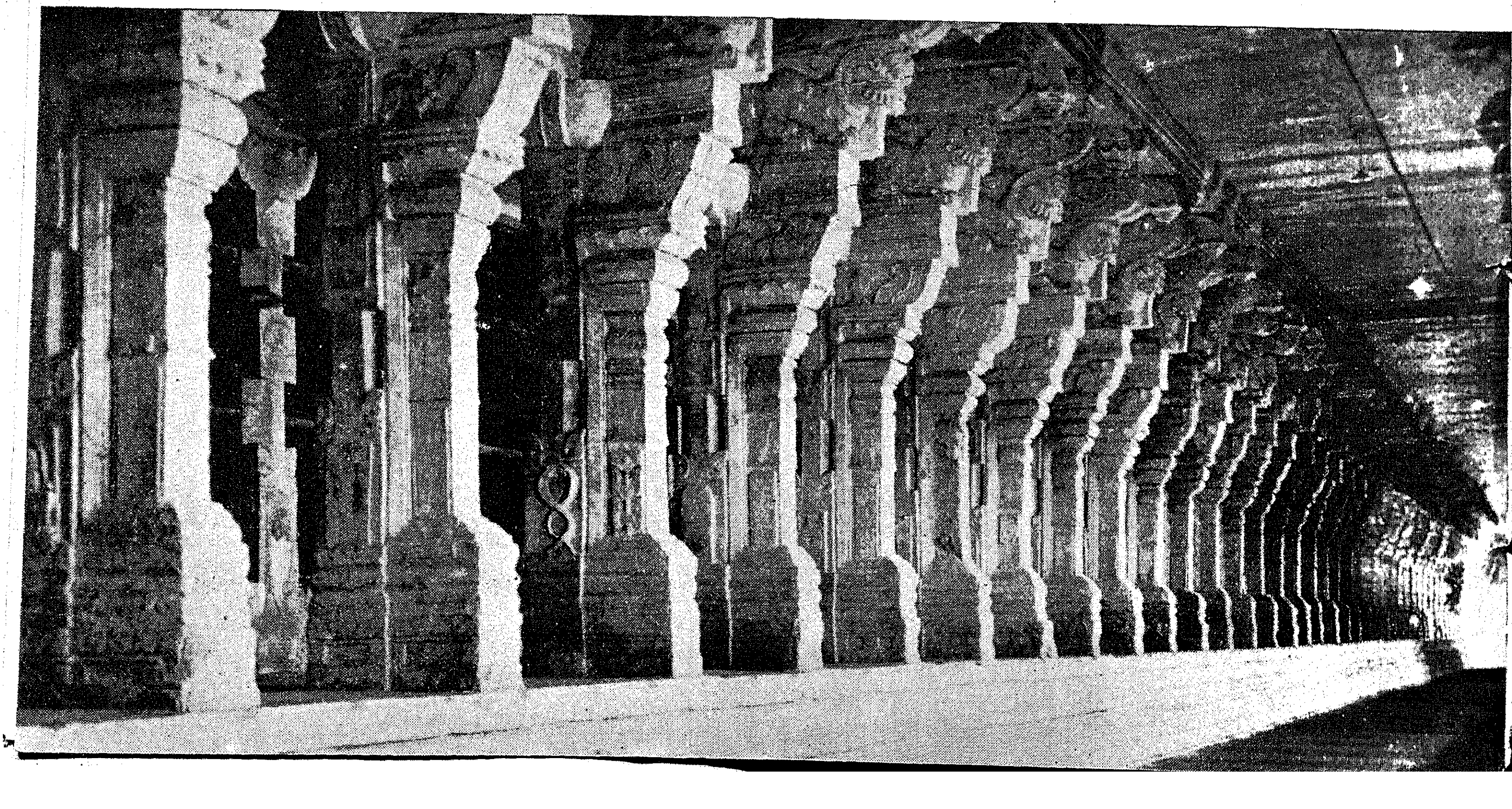
The Western Ghats lie on the western and the northern parts of Srivilliputtur taluk. Except for this range and the hillock of Piramalai in Tirupattur taluk, the district is an uninteresting plain, presenting few natural features. Sattur taluk and a large portion of Aruppukottai taluk, are black cotton plains. The country generally slopes in a south-easterly direction.

The Vaigai is the chief river in this district. The Arjunanadhi, Vaipar, Mudangiar, Vijayanathi, Mannarkottainadhi, Gundar, Kanal odai, Manimuthar and the Thenar are the minor streams.

Climate and Rainfall.

The district as a whole is very dry, mitigated to some extent by the seabreeze in the coastal areas. April to June are the hottest months. The district gets a major portion of the rainfall during the north-east monsoon. The average rainfall of the district is 37 inches of which 18 to 20 inches are during the north-esat monsoon period. The rainfall is evenly distributed throughout the district. The north-east monsoon accounts for 20 to 22 inches of rainfall in the months of October,

The corridor with a thousand pillars in the Rameswaram temple. This is the longest corridor in the world.



November and December. On the whole the district depends upon seasonal rains. The rainfall has been poor for the last 4 or 5 years and distress conditions resulted.

Soils.

The district consists of a large expanse of laterite or red-soil, with black cotton soil in the southern half (i.e., Sattur, Aruppukottai, Mudukulathur and Ramanathapuram taluks). The coast is fringed with sand dunes, with swamps at their back. Srivilliputtur and Sattur taluks consist of black-loam with a strip of red soil, along the foot of the hills. The red soils are poor, but are fertile where irrigation facilities exist.

Irrigation facilities.

There are no perennial rivers. The chief irrigation sources are the Vaigai, the Vaippar and the Arjunanadhi. There are other hill-streams and rainfed tanks too. Wells also are used for irrigation.

Food and Commercial Crops.

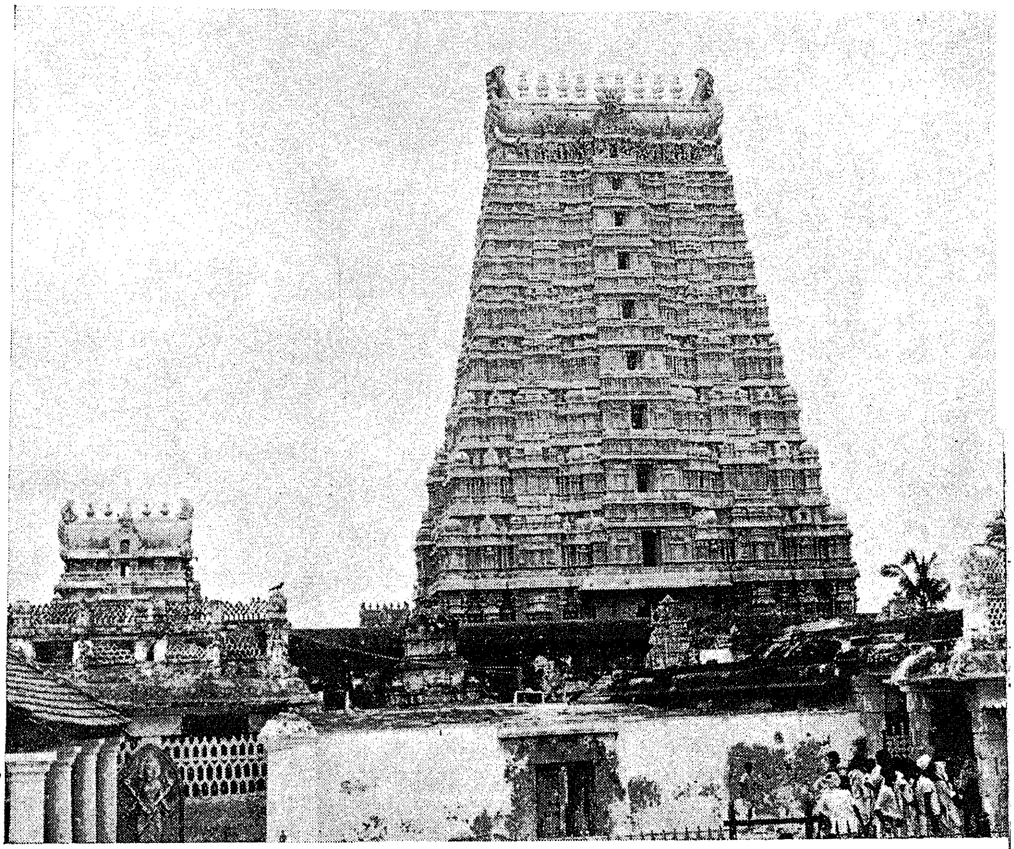
Paddy is the main food crop. Millets are also grown, but in smaller extents. Groundnut and cotton are the chief commercial crops.

Railways.

There are 226¾ miles of metre gauge railway of the Southern Railway in this district. The main line from Madras to Dhanushkodi runs through this district. A line branches off to Rameswaram from Pamban on the main line. A line from Madurai connects with the main line at Manamadurai Junction. The south-east line from Tiruchirappalli to Tuticorin also passes through this district. A chord line branches off from the south-east line from Virudhunagar and proceeds to Tenkasi in Tirunelveli district. A line recently laid connects Karaikudi with Aranthangi in Tanjore district. The taluk headquarter towns of Sivaganga, Paramakudi, Ramanathapuram, Sattur and Srivilliputtur have railway communications.

Population.

The population of the district in 1951 was 20·8 lakhs. Excluding the extent of 160 miles covered by the forests, the density of population in the district works out to 446 per square mile. The population of the district has increased by 4·5 per cent in the decade 1941–51. The increase in the previous decade was 7·6 per cent. This low increase of 4·5 per cent as compared with 7·6 per cent in the previous decade is to be attributed to the large -scale emigration of labour classes to the adjoining districts of Madurai, Tiruchirappalli and Tanjore as well as migration to Ceylon during the distress period, in the later part of the last decade.



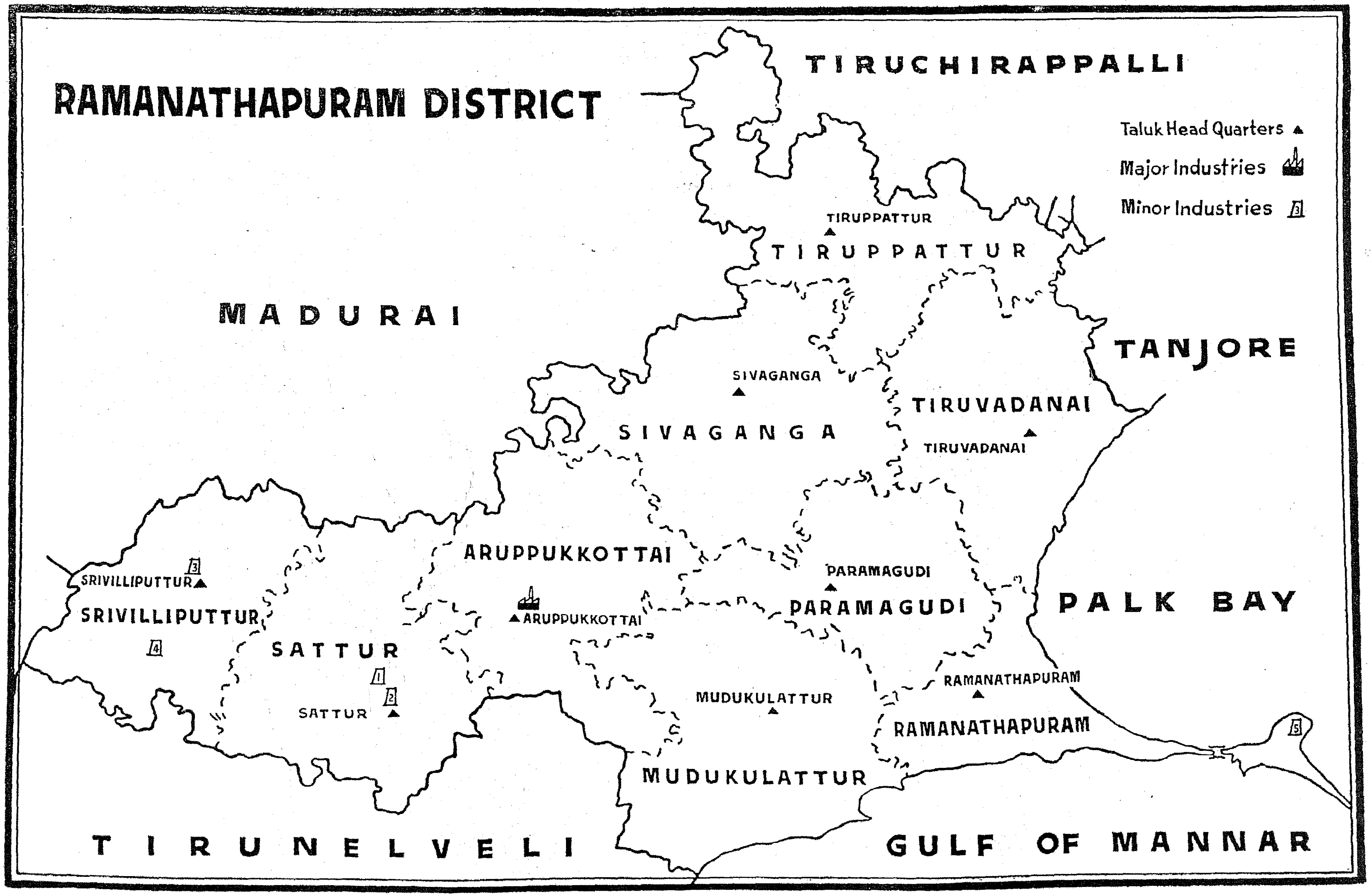
The temple at Rameswaram in the Ramanathapuram district attracts a large number of pilgrims from all over India round the year.

Vital Statistics.

The figures provided by the 1951 census are : average birth-rate 31 per mille, average death-rate 20·9 per mille, maternal mortality 5·6 per thousand.

Economic and Social Condition.

The economic and social structure of this district is varied. Srivilliputtur and Sattur taluks were used to the settled system of ryotwari administration with its attendant benefits. The communities living in these taluks are generally Naidus, Reddiars, Rajus and Nadars. They are generally enterprising in nature known for their hard work and thrifty habits. The other patch (consisting of the major portion of the former zamindari areas) were under the Marava chieftains and populated wholly by communities, known as Kallars, Maravars and Agambadiyars They are generally poor agriculturists. The third area, called the Chettinad area covering about 300 square miles in Tirupattur, Sivaganga and Tiruvadanai taluks, though lying in zamindari area, presents a different picture. It is also mainly agricultural but is highly developed in other respects with decent-looking houses, neatly laid out streets with drinking water Uranis and Teppakulams, with the advantage of electric lighting. Excepting the highly developed commercial centre of Virudunagar and the industrial towns of Sivakasi, Sattur and Rajapalayam, the population of the remaining parts of this district have no dependable irrigation sources and drinking water-supply facilities. The general facilities in the matter of communications, education and medical aid are also inadequate


RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT
TIRUCHIRAPPALLI
Taluk Head Quarters
Major Industries
Minor Industries
MADURAI
TANJORE
TIRUPPATTUR
TIRUPPATTUR
SIVAGANGA
SIVAGANGA
TIRUVADANAI
TIRUVADANAI
ARUPPUKKOTTAI
ARUPPUKKOTTAI
PARAMAGUDI
PARAMAGUDI
PALK BAY
SRIVILLIPUTTUR
SRIVILLIPUTTUR
SATTUR
SATTUR
MUDUKULATTUR
MUDUKULATTUR
RAMANATHAPURAM
RAMANATHAPURAM
TIRUNELVELI
GULF OF MANNAR

Match Industry is a major one in Ramanathapuram district.

In the Second Five-Year Plan special emphasis has therefore to be laid on making up these deficiencies, i.e., by providing power supply, by the provision of dependable irrigation sources and additional facilities for education, medical aid and subsidiary occupations to keep the agriculturists employed in the off-season.

As the people are mainly agriculturists subject to the vagaries of the seasons, special attention has been paid to the development of subsidiary occupations with a view to keep them employed in the off-season. Co-operative societies have been proposed to advance loans in the sowing season on short-term loans and for opening more marketing centres for the sale of agricultural produce. Special attention has been given to improvement of communications with a view to give more facilities for education, medical aid, veterinary aid, and other social amentities to the interior villages.

The district comprises of 1,598 revenue villages comprised in the following nine taluks :—

Sivaganga.
Tiruppattur.
Tiruvadanai.
Ramanathapuram.
Mudukulathur.
Paramakudi.
Aruppukottai.
Sattur.
Srivilliputtur.

The preparation of Second-Five Year Plans for all these villages can be broadly divided into three catagories, viz. :-

(1) Municipalities.
(2) Major and minor panchayats.
(3) Non-panchayats.

The major panchayats and municipalities have been treated as separate units. But the non-panchayat areas have been divided into convenient development areas, known as planning units with a population ordinarily ranging from 2,500 to 4,000. The number of such units is 644. These units have again been formed into bigger areas called planning areas taking care to see that no planning area cuts across taluk boundaries and that each planning area has a population of roughly 66,000 so as to be capable of being converted into National Extension Service Blocks in due course. Twenty-five such areas have been formed besides the three National Extension Service Blocks already existing, namely, Srivilliputtur, Sivakasi and Rajapalayam.

Curios out of Chank are made in Ramanathapuram district.

Revised Prices of Chemical Fertilizers.

The Government have revised the price structure of chemical fertilizers sold as straight fertilizers to cultivators providing a margin of Rs. 5 per ton to cover the administrative charges. The revised prices per ton, including Sales Tax are: Ammonium Sulphate Rs. 390·80; Urea Rs. 751·60; Ammonium Sulphate-Nitrate Rs. 452·90 and Calcium Ammonium Nitrate Rs. 360·20.

Save Your Cattle and SAVE YOURSELVES

By Dr. I. D. MANTRAMURTI,
Deputy Director of Animal Husbandry (Veterinary), Madras.

Though it is not fully realised by people, veterinary medicine safeguards the health of human beings too. Hazards to human health result from natural or accidental contact with diseased animals, consumption of their meat, milk and eggs or products like butter, cheese, becon, sausages, etc., and other animal products like liver extracts and gelatine, contaminated during their processing and delivery to the consumer. Making available healthy meat and animal products which is of basic importance in the public health programme, is sadly neglected in our country at present.

If one goes deep into the matter, one will be shocked to learn that there are nearly 80 diseases which are easily transmitted from animals to man.

But these diseases need not frighten anybody as long as there is an efficient Veterinary public health service. The field of Zoonoses is one of the major branches of public health and includes the etiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis, transmission and control of these diseases.

It is therefore needless to say that a well established Veterinary health service is quite essential in any welfare State, not only to protect the millions of dumb animals from the ravages of disease but also to prevent human suffering and to build a healthy nation.

The Organisation of Veterinary Aid.

The organisation of Veterinary aid in India dates back to the year 1888 when a Commission was specially appointed to report on Cattle Diseases in India and suggest measures necessary for their prevention and cure. As a result of their report, an organised attempt, however, was made in the Madras State only in 1891, with the formal inauguration of the Veterinary Department, for the main purpose of conrtolling the virulent Cattle Disease —Rinderpest.

Starting with a part time Superintendent assisted by one Deputy, the department slowly grew, when the staff consisted mostly of Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeons. In fact, some of the Veterinary institutions at this stage were opened and controlled by the local bodies but manned by the Department. In 1920, all the Veterinary Institutions were provincialised and the subordinate staff then consisted of 15 Inspectors and 121 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, of which 46 were in charge of Institutions and 43 in charge of Touring Billets, the rest being on special duty. The designation of the Superintendent who was then known as Chief Superintendent was changed into that of the Director of Veterinary Services in the year 1929. It was redesignated as Director of Animal Husbandry in the year 1948. Thus from a small beginning, the Department has grown into a very useful one with 72 Gazetted Officers, 774 subordinates (including stockmen) and is now engaged not only in the matters of disease control as originally envisaged, but also with the various aspects of Veterinary Research, animal breeding, livestock improvement and education.

What has been done ?

It will be interesting to note at this stage what the Animal Husbandry Department has done during the last fifty years, in the matter of controlling cattle diseases.

In the past, Rinderpest and other cattle diseases have been raging in the State taking a heavy toll of valuable cattle, wiping out many a village of their entire cattle population. In addition to heavy losses in livestock and their products through ravages of this disease, the agricultural production has also suffered greatly on this account. But planned work and prompt action by the departmental men helped them to systematically free the villages one after the other, from the ravages of Rinderpest and our State has now taken an unique position in the Rinderpest-map of India as a Free State. Is it not a great credit to the State as a whole ?

How ?

How Rinderpest was eradicated in Madras State is a story by itself.

From an examination of the history of the disease in this State for the last 50 years, it will be seen that there was a heavy mortality from Rinderpest in the years 1907 to 1909. During the 12 months from April 1908 to March 1909 alone there was a mortality of about 1¼ lakhs of cattle. There was about as much mortality again near about 1918 and in 1928 there was again a mortality of about 12 lakhs.

Epizootology.

It is customary in the study of epizootology to trace out the course of the disease as represented by the incidence and mortality by means of a graph. When the figures for the past 50 years are thus plotted, it is found that the crest of highest incidence and mortality occurred periodically at intervals of about ten years. During these crests, the disease assumed high proportions occurring here and there and

everywhere. During the intervening period between the crests, the mortality went down and outbreaks occurred at odd places and at longer intervals more or less in a sporadic form. This periodic increase and decrease in mortality rates were carefully studied by the departmental officers and from the experimental study of epizootology under laboratory conditions and of field observations of a population subject to vaccination they came to the conclusion that if over 60 per cent of the village cattle are periodically immunised in advance of outbreaks, the disease would tend to disappear altogether.

Advance Preventive Vaccinations.

A programme of advance preventive vaccination in free areas on the basis of an endemic chart and prompt attendance of reported outbreaks were therefore chalked out and as a result of this intensive vaccination campaign combined with the pests inoculations of cattle migrating to forest grazing areas, we are proud to say that we, in Madras, have to-day succeeded in completely eradicating the disease from all the districts in Tamil Nad and there has been no case of Rinderpest since 1952. The magnitude of this achievement is a great credit to the Madras State, for, the Government of India, taking advantage of this situation, have launched a nationwide plan to eradicate Rinderpest, by spending lakhs of rupees, whereas Madras has achieved it by the sweat of the brow.

Guarding against further infection.

The absence of Rinderpest in our State cannot be taken as an achievement without taking proper measures to control the ingress of infected animals from the adjoining States where the disease is said to be rampant. The disease might have been stamped out from the Madras State. But there is the perpetual danger of importation of infection from bordering States, and even countries. In fact, the risk becomes much greater after the disease is stamped out from the State which results in increased susceptibility of the newer generations. Though the departmental officers are endeavouring to keep off the disease by creating an immune belt to a depth of 10 to 15 miles on the land frontiers of this State, there is still the risk of Rinderpest being brought into the State by regular cattle routes by road, rail and sea.

To guard against the ingress of disease into free State of Madras, Quarantine stations have been established on the northern border of the Madras State, so that every animal that passes through these so-called Check Posts could be examined critically and vaccinated with the Freeze Dried Rinderpest Vaccine, and are identified with a standard brand mark, " 0 ". Till the end of December 1957, 707,800 animals have been protected against Rinderpest by the staff of the Quarantine stations besides treating 12,843 animals. The Quarantine stations have also been collecting very valuable data regarding the migration of cattle, cattle trade and cattle routes besides the number of animals that enter the State for being sold as milch animals and those that are to be slaughtered.

Prevention of losses due to other diseases.

Eradication of Rinderpest alone does not solve our problem. Undoubtedly, production of important stock takes time but the annual depletion of our livestock wealth through the ravages of other common contagious diseases can be checked only by launching a systematic advance mass prophylactic immunisation campaign. By far the larger mortality among livestock is due to contagious diseases which may either cause heavy loss to the tiller of the soil or render cattle uneconomic and weak liable to fall easy victims to other diseases. The control of losses due to other non-contagious and parasitic diseases of livestock is also an important item of Veterinary health service—a work which could be carried out by well-qualified Veterinary Assistant Surgeons only; and in dealing with these diseases, prevention in advance, by suitable vaccinations and prompt treatment of the suffering animals are better than waiting to treat the diseased animal when outbreaks occur or to treat them when they have become unproductive due to neglect.

The Government of Madras, having realised the need for an effective Veterinary health service, have therefore expanded the Animal Husbandry Department in several ways to deal with problems connected with livestock in health and disease. Yet nobody can deny there is scope for further expansion.

Healthy sheep like these provide good meat.

Community Development Set-up to be Remodelled

The Annual Conference on Community Development took place between the 20th and 24th of May 1958 at Mt. Abu. Shri V. T. Krishnamachari, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission presided over the Conference and delivered the Inaugural address. Development Commissioners or their representatives, a representative section of the various Heads of Departments and Secretaries to Government, representatives of the various Ministries at the Centre along with representatives from the Sarva Seva Sangh, Bharath Sevak Samaj, Central Social Welfare Board, and Ministers and Deputy Ministers were among those who participated in the Conference. Shri V. T. Krishnamachari in his illuminating opening address stressed greatly on the need for the establishment of a Panchayat in every village along with a village multi-purpose co-operative society. He emphasized the urgent need for these village institutions to accept responsibility for the Rural Development Programmes. In the words of the Minister for Community Development the following items are the high-lights of the Abu Conference :—

(1) *Block Development Committee.*

The Block Advisory Committee will be no more. Out of the debris of our experiences arises the Block Development Committee, consisting of the representatives of the Panchayats elected by them apart from M.L.As., M.Ps. and others. Approximate measures will be taken by State Governments to see that these Block Development Committees develop healthy conventions. The approval of the Block budget for general proposals and for individual schemes will be vested in the Block Development Committee. Exceptional cases as a rule will be referred to higher levels for decision. Let this be the transitional training ground on which the statutory bodies can later be based.

(2) *The Fourth Wheel in the Coach.*

Community Development Programme till now was regarded as a movement of the people, the People's Representatives and the People's Servants. A fourth party joins us hereafter. They are the People's Associates. The people's Associates will hail from all sources—Bharat Sevak Samaj, Bharat Yuvak Samaj, Co-operative Union, Ramakrishna Mission, Gram Sahayaks, Social Welfare Board, All-India Women's Organizations, Adimajati Seva Sanghs, Sarva Seva Sangh—in fact every possible non-official agency which can offer voluntary workers prepared to contribute to the programme. Gram Sahayaks perhaps will constitute the most important source.

(3) *Functional competition versus pulls—Communal and political.*

There will be sub-committees of the Block Development Committee and the Panchayats, representing various facets of development at the respective level. These will include members of the Panchayat or the Block Development Committee according to their special aptitude and inclinations, and also the People's Associates from the sources mentioned earlier. The idea is to start a new spiral of competition at functional levels as against the communal and political pulls with which our village institutions are often torn asunder. These sub-committees will commit many a mistake, as indeed they must, if they are functioning at all. Self-Government does mean learning the art of Government through trials and errors. Who are we to deny them this right ? What is Community Development if the Community is not to learn by its own experience ?

(4) *The Basic Institutions.*

Village Panchayats and village co-operatives will be the basic institutions to which the utmost delegations will be made in respect of planning and implementation of the programme falling within their orbits. These institutions will marsal the resources of the community for programmes of permanent economic and social improvement. The village school will come in as a fresh nucleus of community activities for the children and youth alike. The village teacher will be drawn into the orbit of this programme. He will be given special training and special facilities in cash emoluments and also irrigated land which will be cultivated by the community in order to replenish his income.

(5) *Woman the prime mover.*

Woman is the prime mover behind society. She must be awakened. For this there will have to be long and short-term measures both adopted concurrently. A concreted drive has to be launched for enrolment of village girls to the school. Where a woman teacher is not available to facilitate this development, a school mother will be appointed from the local community on a small honorarium. For short-term measures, Gram-Lakshmis or Gram-kakis as are being tried out with conspicuous success in U.P. and Rajasthan in particular, will be adopted as a universal feature in all areas with funds specially earmarked for the woman's programme as the revised budget now provides. Further resources can be added from the Industrial programme of the various Boards and the Maternity and Child Welfare Programme visualised under Public Health. There are also other budget heads from which women should have their due share.

(6) *The Crisis of Adolescence.*

Our programme, we realise, is going through the crisis of adolescence. The child prodigy that evoked universal economiums is now under discorning tests. Parents who are wise, bestow special attention to the adolescent in this crucial transition. They also seek assistance of friends and neighbours, shedding all thoughts of pride and prestige. Happily, there is almost as much co-ordination now between the Central

Ministries as this programme calls for. In the intra-Ministry Seminar which we are holding today, we shall evolve procedures to make this co-ordination closer still. The National Conference on Community Development into which we plenged from Mussoorie, promises much better co-ordination between Departments in the States than ever before. But co-ordination cannot create new content where none exists. Technical knowledge and resources by their very nature will grow gradually. If we are not to be held up meantime, it is but imperative that we make common cause with the new functional leaders who possess technical knowledge and resources than can enrich the quality and the content of the programme for all.

(7) *The Second Front.*

We have been talking of a " Second Front ". This must include the people's Associates as we have chosen to call them. We recognize clearly that streamlining of the administration has its own limitations at our present level of functioning. There is also the other question of getting people at the grass roots involved as the architects of their own destiny. The Government will continue to suffer for many years to come, under limitations of resources administrative, technical and financial. Country's progress therefore cannot depend merely on Governmental doles in money and initiative. Resources of people, virtually limitless, must come into the pool if it is to be growing.

The recommendations of the Abu Conference will be placed before the Special Meeting of the State Development Committee and the Rural Development Board. Similarly the Collectors will also be requested to place the recommendations before the District Planning Boards. The Block Development Officers will discuss them in the Block Development Committees (hitherto known as the Block Advisory Committee). This is with a view to arrange for the widest possible discussion of the recommendations and follow up action at all levels.

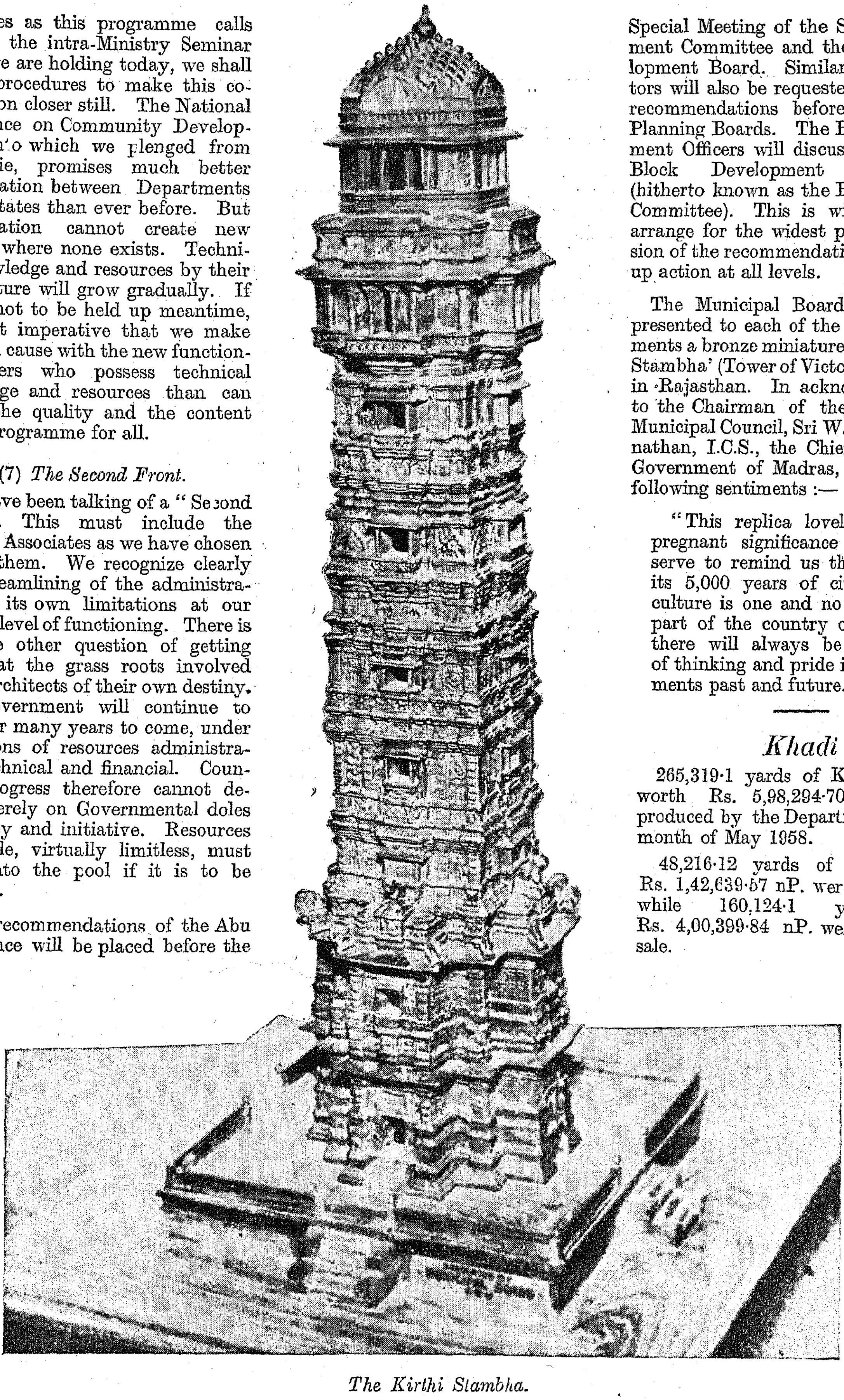
The Municipal Board, Mount Abu presented to each of the State Governments a bronze miniature of the ' Kirthi Stambha' (Tower of Victory) at Chittoor in Rajasthan. In acknowledging this to the Chairman of the Mount Abu Municipal Council, Sri W. R. S. Satthianathan, I.C.S., the Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, expressed the following sentiments :—

"This replica lovely and full of pregnant significance in itself will serve to remind us that India with its 5,000 years of civilization and culture is one and no matter which part of the country one hails from there will always be that oneness of thinking and pride in our achievements past and future."

Khadi

265,319·1 yards of Khadi and silk worth Rs. 5,98,294·70 nP. were produced by the Department of Khadi month of May 1958.

48,216·12 yards of Khadi worth Rs. 1,42,639·57 nP. were sold in retail while 160,124·1 yards worth Rs. 4,00,399·84 nP. were sold whole-sale.



The Kirthi Stambha.

Community Development Movement in India

By Sri M. G. RAJARAM, I.A.S.

The concept of the Community Development Movement: Its genesis:

Scarcely any event in the past decade has created so much stir as the ushering in of the Community Development Programme in this country. As we all know, the greatest number of the huge population of India have lived in the villages for generations together and continue to do so. No doubt the Five-Year Plan had big projects and schemes involving heavy investments, specialised equipment and advanced scientific techniques. In the very nature of these projects the people at large could not have the opportunity of a direct and personal participation excepting of course those who came in as paid employees. Independence and freedom, however, were meant for all, down to the last man in the village with all the rights and obligations. The capital towns and cities saw the National Flag fluttering. It did give great joy to all of us. However, the inner message of the revolution had still to seep down to the hearts of the millions who dwelt and slogged in the country side and whose toil was for the benefit of the prosperity of the urban areas. To act as the herald of this message therefore and to lay the foundation for the Welfare State came the new scheme—the Community Projects—which was a Plan of the people, by the people and for the people.

India is a huge country. The plans and schemes cannot be given coverage at one stroke. There are the limitations of finance and also the trained personnel for these schemes. It therefore became necessary in the beginning at least to stagger and site the new programme in select areas to serve as pilots for the future. Accordingly 55 Community Projects were started as the first instalment. Each Project covered a population of about 200,000 divided into three blocks of approximately 66,000 each. The main object was to concentrate in these areas the technical resources of the Government in a single line organization under one single control. Finance which was estimated at Rs. 65 lakhs for a Project area in the first instance, was provided to serve as a catalyst. The scheme was to get the people to plan for the development in their bare needs of life from the village upwards. In the words of the Government of India the purpose of the Community Project shall be

> " to serve as a pilot in the establishment for the men, women and children covered by the area of the 'right to live', food, the principal item in the wherewithal for this purpose receiving the primary emphasis in the initial stages of the programme ".

By experience, however, it was found that these Community Project areas in which the original programme functioned were virtual islands in the existing administration of the Government. The Project Officer in charge had no organic link with the existing administration except at the top level and the same was the case with the other technical functionaries attached to him. The problem also remained as to the nature of the permanent organization of the Government which could continue providing technical and administrative guidance to the people after the intensive period of the programme had expired. Thus it was obvious that the programme needed expansion ultimately with a view to covering the whole country and more importantly so, the integration with the existing administrative apparatus. Isolated experiments in Rural Development had been undertaken in the past in various parts of the country, e.g., the extension programme in Baroda; the Rural Reconstruction work in the Punjab and at Martandam in the old Travancore-Cochin State; the firka development scheme in Madras; and the Community Schemes in Itawah, Nilokheri and Faridabad. They all had one principle of " extension on a comprehensive scheme, though in a limited area". In the words of the planners of the country:

> " the experience gained from these experiments pointed to one conclusion, namely, that Development is an indivisible process and that there is no room for isolated pockets of prosperity on land. Prosperity must spread and extension ultimately must be co-extensive with India as a whole."

This meant the taking up of intensive development of viable areas over periods of time with a certain sense of priority in the various items of development to be undertaken. The viable unit called the Development Block was fixed as an area with about 60,000 to 80,000 population and roughly about one hundred villages. Thus was born the National Extension Service.

Organizational pattern.

As contrasted with extension merely in Agriculture as in other modern countries of the world such as the United States, we in India had to think of a Community Development pattern dealing with all facets of life in the rural areas. Our administration which worked in rather watertight compartments demanded an early synthesis so as to provide a single line approach, in all matters of development from the Centre down to the ground. The provinces which functioned almost in isolation from each other had to subordinate the emphasis on the individuality to the National approach, if the National Plan was not to be bogged down in a morass of communal and parochial interests. An organisational pattern to provide technical assistance for the development of the rural areas in all its facets was accordingly conceived. The Block Development Officer as the captain of the team is the chief executive officer of the Block responsible for the co-ordination of the functions of all the technical specialists at his level. The technical team consists of specialists in various subjects concerning rural life, such as Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Co-operation, Social Education, Public Health, Panchayats and Village Industries. The Block Development Officer along with his extension officers form the core of the extension agency. In order to provide the link to the village level there is a multi-purpose village level worker responsible for the multi-purpose needs of an area consisting of about 10 villages with a population of

5 to 6 thousands. His training gives him a thorough grounding for discharging his responsilities as a multipurpose worker. He works at the village level with representatives of the village people and other functionaries of the Government, if any, including school teachers. He brings up problems from the ground and the people and poses them for the Block level specialists for assistance and advice. He then transmits these down the line to the ground. He is a functionary medium but not a specialist. The technical extension personnel get their advice from the District Officers in the respective spheres. The administrative links are provided from the village level workers to the Block Development Officers, Revenue Divisional Officers, Collectors and the Development Commissioner and his deputies at the State level.

The Programme.

As has been stated earlier, since it is the intention to deal comprehensively with all the facets of rural life, every block has got an overall programme to deal with the following items of work :—

A. *Agriculture and allied fields.*—(i) Reclamation of available virgin and waste lands ;

(ii) provision of water for irrigation through canals, tube wells, surface wells and tanks and lift irrigation from rivers, wells, etc.

(iii) provision of quality seeds, improved agricultural techniques, improved agricultural implements, marketing and credit facilities, veterinary aid, breeding centres for Animal Husbandry, and development of inland fisheries ;

(iv) soil research and manures and fertilizers ; fruit and vegetable cultivation, Arbori culture, including raising of forests and the re-organization of dietetics.

B. *Communications.*—Provision of roads, encouragement of mechanical road transport services and development of animal transport ;

C. *Education.*—Promotion of compulsory and free education at the elementary stage, high and middle school, social education and library services.

D. *Health.*—Provision of sanitation and public health measures, medical aid for the ailing, pre-natal and antenatal care and midwifery services.

E. *Village Industries.*—Promotion of cottage, medium and small scale industries.

F. *Housing.*—Promotion of improved techniques and designs for rural housing and housing in rural-*cum*-urban areas along with loan facilities.

G. *Social education and Community life.*—Provision of community entertainment based on local talent and culture, audio-visual aids for instruction and recreation ; organization of local and other sports, festivals, melas, etc.

H. *Co-operatives.*—Promotion of co-operatives in villages as economic organs to provide facilities for credit, marketing and technical assistance to villages, especially the underprivileged.

I. *Panchayats.*—Promotion of the Panchayat as the basis institution of local self-government which could provide a base on which democracy could grow organically from the village family to the National Parliament.

Public Participation.

The list that I have just now read is rather formidable both in scope and magnitude. It is obvious that the Governmental apparatus howsoever extensive, cannot implement the programme on its own. The financial provision within the block budget can cater only for the essential items of development primarily concerned for the immediate advancement of the community as a whole. Therefore it is very necessary that the villagers themselves should shoulder the responsibility and come forward with their own contribution in kind, cash and labour. The villagers are to be encouraged to take the initiative and to decide what they need most and the priority. The Governmental agency will act as a complement to the people obeying their behest in every face of the activities and at every stage of the programme.

India's Defence Minister Sri V. K. K. Menon, addressed the newly formed Auxiliary Forces Welfare Association during his recent visit to the City.

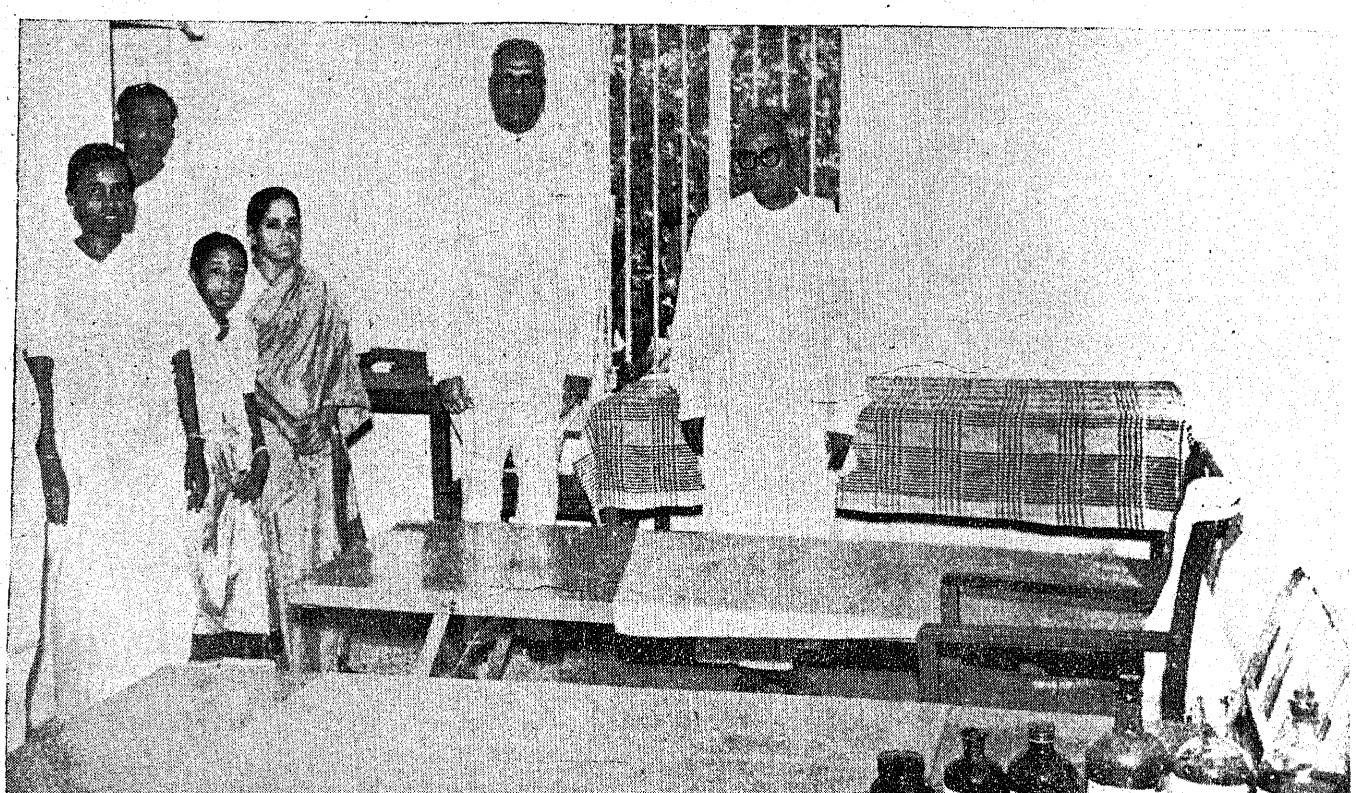
People's Organization.

Since the whole programme is a people's programme to be thought of and executed by the people themselves with assistance from the Governmental agency, it is very essential that the establishment of the people's organization from the ground level should be on a sound basis with freedom to think and act for themselves. Their discretion should find free expression without being subjected to undue Governmental control. There should be no regimentation about it, but everything should be based on the largest measure of agreement between themselves. I am sure, you are all aware, of the famous report on the working of the N.E.S. Programme by the Committee on Plan Projects Scheme headed by Shri Balwantrai Mehta. One of the most important recommendations of the team is the formation of a Block Board or Samiti at the block level consisting of the elected representatives of the Panchayats in the area. This is to bring about decentralization democratically. The Block Development Officer is to be the chief executive officer of this Samiti working under the control and guidance of the democratic block board. The whole of the extension agency under the Block Development Officer will be available for the service of the Block Board. In Madras, we had already contemplated this process of democratic decentralization even before the advent of the Mehta Committee. We have now a pilot panchayat union (which is similar to the Block Samiti contemplated by the Mehta Committee) now functioning in the North Madurai Block. It is the intention to prepare a comprehensive block budget pooling the financial allocations for the various items of development and in which financial provisions of the Block budget will also be merged. The Block Board will have powers to sanction schemes and also execute them through the block agency. They will have also powers to levy certain taxes.

Revised Community Development and National Extension Service Programme.

One other important recommendation of the COPP team is for the revised pattern of the National Extension Service Programme and the coverage of the country. The Ministry of Community Development after studying these recommendations and in consultation with the State Governments and the National Development Council have now decided that there should only be two stages of development, Stage I—with a financial ceiling of Rs. 12 lakhs and a period of five years, and Stage II—with a financial ceiling of Rs. 5 lakhs with a period of five years. This was done mainly with a view to maintain the even tempo of the programme and also to provide a continuous process of development. As regards the coverage of the country with the National Extension Service it was the original programme to achieve it by the end of the Second Five-Year Plan. In view, however, of the shortage of technical personnel it has recently been decided by the National Development Council to extend the period of coverage to the second year of the Third Five-Year Plan. These decisions are currently under examination of the State Government for implementation.

Before I conclude, I would like to quote a passage from the address by Shri V. T. Krishnamachari, Deputy



The Home Minister inaugurated the newly-built Maternity Centre at Singaperumalkoil

Chairman, Planning Commission at the recent Annual Conference on Community Development held at Mount Abu :

" I shall now by way of summing up bring out the magnitude of the long term rural development programme in terms of what has to be done by the 60 million families in Rural India organized in small village communities. In every village a village panchayat and a village multi-purpose co-operative should accept responsibility for the programme. The village panchayat should have the taxing and regulatory functions conferred on it by Law. For example, it should have formally power conferred on it for enforcing customary obligations. But all programmes should be carried out through the Co-operative in which every family would be represented. The implementation should be by common consent all members joining in the process of reaching decisions and giving effect to them. In every village the Panchayat and the Co-operative should have a Five-Year programme for the village (made up of family programmes) under the various items of development for which the entire village would be prepared to work. These should be fitted into the district and block programmes and through these into the State programmes. Every family would thus have a plan of improvement for which it would put forward its best efforts."

These famous observations of the Deputy Chairman are based on the directive principle of the Planners that " Community Development is the method and rural extension the agency through which the Five-Year Plan seeks to initiate a process of transformation of the social and economic life of the villagers ".

Although this programme has been periodically scoffed at by cynics and saints alike, there is absolutely no doubt whatsoever, that it has instilled a new excitement with faith and hopes and aspirations in the people. It is evident from the fact that there is a constant clamour about the universal multiplication of the programme to cover the whole country. Although it is not my intention here to boast about the success, or justify the shortcomings, I wish to state with great confidence that the programme has definitely struck roots and if we are patient and constructively critical, before another five years are over, we would be having a democratically established Panchayat Union in every Block accepting the direct responsibility for the activities—economic and otherwise, and implementing the same through the Block agency. The unit of administration will be the Block for all purposes. Gandhiji's dream of a Panchayat Raj will become a reality. With the spread of education, the anxiety of the people to shoulder more responsibilities will increase and consequently villages will grow up able leaders, statesmen and politicians.

—From the paper read at the luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club, of Madras, on 3rd June 1958.

In the Service of the Nation

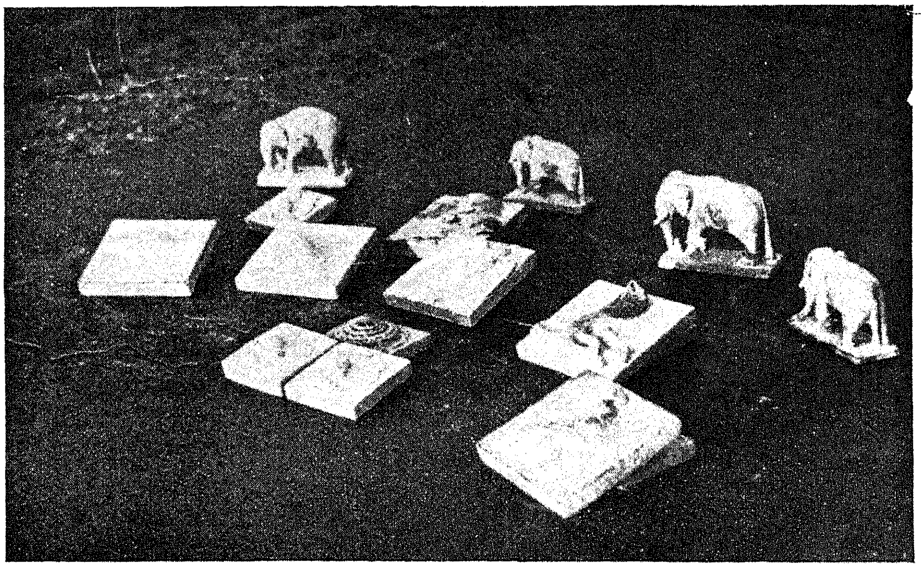
Two Social Service camps at Thinnanur and Puduchatram were run by A.C.C. Cadets and the Sir Theagaraya Social Service League at Thinnanur and Puduchatram from 25th May 1958 to 3rd June 1958 and 20th May 1958 to 13th June 1958, respectively, under the auspices of National Extension Service, Poonamallee. Two hundred and fifty A.C.C. Cadets and school teachers drawn from about seventeen schools in Madras City and 70 students from Sir Theagaraya College and the College High School belonging to the Social Service League, participated in the two camps.

The Thinnanur campers daily attended to the silt clearance work in the supply channel leading from the Cooum river to the Thinnanur tank. The channel is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles long. The silt clearance will help the Thinnanur tank in receiving its full supply and thereby about 3,000 acres of lands in Annambedu, Amadurmedu, Thinnanur, Nemilicheri and Agarammel villages will be irrigated.

The A.C.C. camp was being run by the officers and staff of 2nd Madras E.M.E. Section, N.C.C., the Camp Commandant being Captian L. M. Rajagopalan assisted by Lt. Md. Sulaiman, N.C.C and Subedar Ramamurti. Dr. Sadanandhan of S. A. P. Camp, Avadi, was in charge of the medical facilities and sanitation.

The camp at Puduchatram run by Sir Theagaraya College Social Service League was in the charge of Mr. K. N. Parthasarathy, Mr. V. Nagarajan and Mr. A. K. Venkataraman.

(*Please see picture story on pages* 18 *and* 19.)



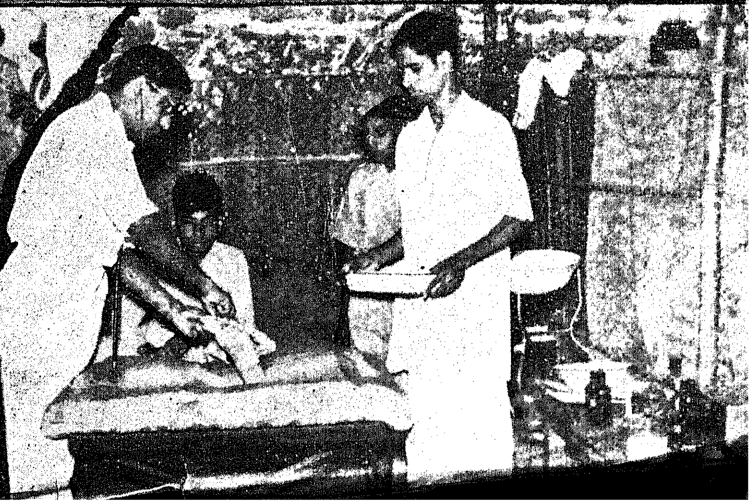
Handiworks of the students of the Institute of Sculpture, Mahabalipuram.

IN THE SERVICE OF THE NATION

The A.C.C. students at work.

Top left : *Before the work started.*
Top middle : *On the march to the work-spot.*
Top right, centre left and above : *At work.*
Centre right : *When the work was done.*
Bottom row : *After a wash, a hearty meal.*
Extreme right : *In the doctor's shed.*

"Something attempted, something done has earned a day's repose".



SCIENCE ON THE MARCH

Marine Institute Develops Process for Utilisation of Waste Fish.

A process for the conversion of fish into high quality food in the form of fish flour has been developed at the Central Marine Research Station at Mandapam in Madras State.

The project was initiated primarily to help fishermen in making use of the surplus fish, when occasionally there were big catches, and which otherwise would have gone waste. The raw material used in investigations was shark fish having high urea content. By the fermentation process it has been found possible to remove major part of the odour, preventing development of rancidity to a great extent and almost completely eliminating urea. The cost of the processing of 100 lb. of fish worked out to not more than 25 nP.

The researchers attached to the Institute have designed a simple device in the form of a processing unit which can be used by the fisherman individually or through co-operatives. The cost of each unit is not likely to exceed Rs. 500.

Of Climates and Man.

A variety of problems concerning man's relation with his environment are highlighted in a new publication, entitled "Climatology", which is in the form of a review of research in arid land utilisation sponsored by the UNESCO.

The tenth in a series of UNESCO publications concerning arid lands research, this report was originally prepared for a symposium on Arid Zones Climatology which was held in Canberra, Australia, in 1956. It brings together under one cover, result of researches carried out by scientists from Australia, Israel, the United States, France, the United Kingdom and Sweden.

The publication covers a variety of interesting topics such as influence of climate on vegetation and animal life, and the question of how climate affects man and determines the character of social institutions.

One of the more striking aspects of this report is the stress it places on the influence of man himself upon the climate in which he lives—an influence which, unfortunately, has been far from beneficial up till now. Man has damaged his climatic enviornment not only through indiscriminate destruction of forests, but also by building big cities. The report, thus, is both a warning and a guide for future programme in the neglected though vitally important field of arid zones climatology, and will be of particular interest to those in India engaged in fighting the spread of desert in Rajastan and reclamation of arid lands for agricultural purposes elsewhere.

Blind Person Sees Light Through New Radar Set

Through the use of a crude "radar" set connected to wires in her brain, a woman blind for 18 years has been able to detect flashes of light. This discovery has led medical authorities to believe that within five years almost all blind people may be able to see to some degree by means of electrical stimulus of the vision centres.

The instrument would operate somewhat like a radarscope or television set, according to Dr. John C. Button, a neurologist, who worked on the test. Button said the brain cells did not atrophy like inactive muscle cells but could be animated. He said wires about half the diameter of human hair were placed through drilled holes in the patient's brain and extended about two inches into the back of the brain to the centres of vision. The wires were connected to a transistor amplifier which was linked to a small photo-electric cell. The concept is that the photo-electric cell picks up light and transmutes it into electric current which animates the brain cells.

New Leprosy Drug.

A new "anti-leprosy drug of considerable potential importance with outstanding qualities", was announced recently by Ciba Pharmaceutical Products, Inc.

Called Ciba 1906, the drug was developed in the firm's laboratories at Summit, New Jersey, and in Switzerland. Ciba reported that it was tested with success for three years among leprosy victims in Africa by Dr. T. F. Davey, head of a British reserach unit there. Davey called the drug's clinical and bacteriological activity "satisfactory" and said it prevented residual skin scarring and disfigurement when used with other active medications.

He said Ciba 1906 is especially effective in treating children because of its non-toxic nature. The drug is being tested in ten countries in Asia, Africa and South America, the Company said.

Colour Pictures in One Minute.

Full colour photographs can be taken and printed in one minute by use of a new film perfected by the Polaroid Corporation in the United States. Like the present black and white films rolls, the colour films rolls will consist of two parts—a roll of negative and a roll of self-processing positive paper.

Value of Green Grasses in Cattle Feed

By DR. D. PATTABIRAMAN, G.M.V.C, A.I.D.I., Director of Animal Husbandry, Madras.

Green grasses are the best available feed for the animals. They are much relished by animals and specially for cows in milk and for grazing young stock it is most essential too. The cost of feeding with concentrates can be considerably reduced if green grass is made available to the animals as a constant supply. Moreover the quality of milk of a cow depends upon the feed given to the animal. As greens contain all essential vitamins, if fed to animals in the morning one can get good quality milk in the evening for our use.

For information and adoption, the cultivation methods of a few grasses are mentioned below :

Guinea grass.

This is a perennial fodder grass which is commonly cultivated largely under irrigated conditions. This thrives well under our climatic conditions. Unlike other grasses, this grows well even in shady parts of the land. Coconut gardens, etc., can also be made use of for cultivation. It grows in height up to 4′ and even higher. Not deep rooted. Tillers profusely. It can be grown both by seeds and slips. Seed rate is about 15 to 20 lb. but cultivation by slips is the best method.

Buffalo grass.

This is another variety of perennial fodder grass which can be taken up for cultivation as above. This will thrive well under waterlogged conditions also. This also gives a large yield as guinea grass.

Rhodes Grass and *Napier grass*, etc., also can be cultivated as mentioned above.

Berseem.

This is an annual white flowered clover introduced into this country from Egypt. Though it has its native tract at Syria and Egypt, it has adopted admirably well and is now the chief commercial forage crop of Punjab and U.P. At present it is grown in South India at the Livestock Research Station, Hosur Cattle Farm on a large scale. This crop is pre-eminently suited for irrigated tracts. It is a cold weather rotation crop and like other legumes enriches the soil. It is an annual crop of seven months' duration. The fodder is very rich in protein and is relished by all kinds of livestock. The early sowings of berseem can be carried out from the end of September and continued up to the middle of November. Large quantities of berseem green fodder can be had from the middle of November in four or five cuttings till May. It is good for milch cattle and is found to increase the milk yield. Green berseem fodder contains up to 2.3 per cent of digestable protein and 10 percent total digestable nutrients Work bullocks can be maintained on berseem even when doing hard work and receiving no added concentrates. A small quantity of dry roughage however is advisable. Since it is a leguminous crop it enriches the soil by virtue of the nitrogen fixing bacteria present in the root nodules. It also forms a very good rotation with other fodder crops like cholam, maize and Teosinte which are raised during the monsoon period.

Berseem Hay.—Berseem when converted into hay is considered to be of very high nutritive value for feeding the livestock. Care should be taken to dry the berseem in a proper way and any careless handling will cause the shedding of leaves. Berseem should be dried in the shade avoiding direct exposure to sun. It will take 6 to 7 days for the proper drying of this crop. Due to the presence of this succulent stems the leaves may dry off more quickly than the stems and the leaves will become brittle when the stems dry up. Hence it is necessary to handle them carefully while turning and heaping as otherwise much loss will occur in the shedding of leaves. A properly made hay should be of green colour without any moulds and should be neither too dry nor too wet containing about 10 per cent moisture.

Berseem hay is as rich in protein as Lucerne averaging about 14 per cent and is a highly valuable fodder for almost all classes of livestock. It is also very rich in calcium with an average figure of 3 per cent on the dry material and a high phosphorus content around 0.355 per cent, 100 pounds of berseem hay contain 9.7 pounds of digestible protein and 43.5 lb. of total digestible nutrients (P.E.Lander).

Sunn-hemp

This is a leguminous plant rich in albunicids. The light loamy soil to heavy clay with suitable moisture conditions, suits well for the growth of sun hemp. This is a quick growing plant with a growth phase of two months. Usually in the paddy growing areas such as Tanjore district the only available cattle fodder is the paddy straw, which happens to possess a low nutritive value, there is a need to have other suitable supplementary fodder. It has been found that growing of sunn hemp in the paddy growing areas after paddy crop, has been very useful. Just before the harvest of paddy, the sun-hemp crop can be grown. The seeds are soaked in water overnight, the water is drained in the next morning but the seeds are kept moist till the evening, when they begin to sprout out. The sprouted seeds are sown broadcast in the standing crops of paddy, just a few days before harvest. The sun hemp crop comes up soon after the removal of the paddy crop. The crop comes to flower two months after sowing, when a characteristic aroma is developed which is very much relished by cattle. The crop is harvested, just when it is in full bloom, before it pods after harvest and drying are bundled together and stocked with paddy stocks, so that a mild fermentation can take place in the stock. The cattle are fed

both sun hemp bundles and paddy straw together; the cattle relish them well. The paddy straw provides the bulk and the sun hemp the nutrients deficient in the paddy straw. The characteristic aroma of the sun hemp mixed with the feed of paddy spare makes the animal relish the feed well The milk yield of animals fed on this mixed f ed has increased well over the animals that were fed on paddy straw alone, thus showing the balanced feed of both mixed together. Apart from the balanced feed, the aroma and the tenderness of the feed, increase the high palatability. The yield of sun hemp per acre is about 1,500 to 2,000 lb.

Lucerne.

This is a perennial crop. When once cultivated, it continues to remain producing for a number of years. This is believed to be the native of South Western Asia, where climate is characterised by cold winters and hot summers. It is also grown successfully under a wide range of climatic conditions indicating a remarkable adaptation to various climates and soils but observations reveal that a high combination of humidity and temperature does not much favour the growth of Lucerne.

This has a very high nutritive value as it contains high percentage of digestible crude protein. This is a very important forage for livestock.

Silage.

Ensilage is the process of storing green grass fodder in pits or towers. The silo is the pit or tower in which it is stored. Silage is the name given to the contents of the Silo or pit when preserved.

A good silage programme offers dairy farmers a brighter future. The chief object of ensilage is to preserve fodder in a plentiful season for consumption during seasons of drought. The process of siloing has developed greatly in different countries depending mostly on the climatic conditions and their relation with the growth of green fodder, but in India this process of storing green grass is very valuable, where fodder famines are frequent. The abundant use of this silage is well demonstrated at the Livestock Research Station, Hosur Cattle Farm though it is not yet widely practised in other areas.

The silage can be fed in the hot season to milch cows and others when there is no grazing. During the monsoon there is plentiful supply of grass, but this is generally cut and made into hay and used either for fodder or for thatch in the districts. But on the other hand the surplus green fodder can be advantageously converted into silage and used during hot season, when there is no grazing. Expenses in making silage is less than that in hay making. There is no risk of fire or theft. There is no less loss in weight by conversion. The food is more palatable and more digestible. By ensiling the succulent condition of the green fodder is kept up and it gets the smell of wood apple which is liked by the animals. The cattle may not like it for the first time but slowly and steadily, they relish it well. The crop for the silage can be harvested at an early stage of maturity. There is no need to wait for ideal weather. There are no curing problems in silage making. Most of the fodder crops and grasses can be made use of for the silage, but it has been observed that the leguminous crops such as Lucerene, Berseem, etc., are not forming good silage under the conditions prevailing here. The grasses and fodder should be cut just when they begin to flower. If cut when the grass is ripe and dry, it does not make good silage and in this case should be kept for hay. The keeping quality of silage has been found excellent for more than three years at the Livestock Research Station, Hosur.

Grass being cut for silo.

Method of ensilage.—Pits of convenient sizes either rectangular or circular may be dug out in elevated places so that there may not be any sepage in the pits. The depth of the pits can be even up to 12 to 15 feet if the water table is sufficiently low. Any convenient size of the pit can be taken up according to the availability of fodder. But in smaller pits there will be more of surface contact and thereby more of wastage by spoilage. Circular pits are more advantageous than rectangular pits as the former have less of surface contact than the latter for a same cubic content. The size of the pits can be decided roughly basing on the calculation that every cubic feet of the pit can hold 50 to 55 lb. of green fodder. Finer fodders like grasses will hold more and the coarse fodders like cholam, teosinte, etc., will hold less. It is good to have brick lining the sides of the pits so that the spoilage along the sides may be reduced considerably.

To start with the pits are cleaned well and a dry packing with dry straw or hay is given all along the sides and the bottom to prevent the direct contact of the fodder with earth. The green fodders as they are cut are carted and dumped in and spread out evenly at the bottom. Molasses and salt are added at the rate of one lb. in each for every 1,000 lb. of fodder. If available, molasses can be added even up to 10 lb. for every 1,000 lb.

Care is always taken to see the packing is perfect all along the sides as otherwise it will lead to allowing air pockets along the sides which will cause considerable damage by way of forming moulds and decomposition. When the

A silo pit under preparation.

filling is just nearing the ground level heavy animals like Sindhi bulls or buffaloes can be conveniently allowed to trample over the pit in order to secure a thorough packing of the fodder. It is always better if there are enough facilities to chaff the fodder before ensiled and in such cases the packing will be more perfect and consequently the wastage will be less. Mostly in the later part of the days there may not be enough moisture in the fodder and it will be more so when the sun is very bright then the fodder will be found withered. In which case the fodder is dumped into the pit water is sprinkled at the rate of one to two gallons for every 1,000 lb. depending on the condition of the fodder.

When the filling reaches the ground level more care is taken to arrange the fodder uniformly and taken to a height of 10 to 12 feet above the ground level giving a dom shape on the tops. As the material sinks down there may be some tendency for the fodder to bulge out and such portion will have to be chopped off to facilitate the sinking down of fodder properly. Then the top and sides are covered with some waste fodder weeded grass, etc., and the whole top portion including the sides are covered with wet earth. The whole process of filling takes eight to ten days. There should not be any undue rush in filling the pits too quickly nor should it be delayed for a longer period. As the pit sinks down, cracks will be formed and they should be closed with addition of earth. Once the pits are closed care should be taken to see that they are air tight till they are opened for use. The silage will be ready for removal and feeding in about three months. Once the pit is opened it should be completed as quickly as possible so that there may not be much of wastage and dryage. Best thing is to remove only $\frac{1}{3}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ top portion of the pit and cut straight to the bottom with hay knife and remove that portion only. On completion of that portion another 3rd or 4th may be taken up. In this case the dryage will be avoided considerably.

Conclusion.

The silage forms a very good substitute for green fodder. By ensilage succulent fodder is made available when other sources have disappeared. By feeding silage to cows the milch flow is maintained longer than by feeding dry fodder. Silage promotes health of animal as it contains its natural moisture and juices. Silage is more digestible by animals than dry fodder on account of the chemical changes taken during preservation. Silage contains the maximum possible nutrition of fodder as it can be cut of exactly at the right time.

State Transport

The fleet strength of the Madras Branch of the State Transport on 30th April was 450.

During April, eight split services were introduced along the routes, 28A, 12 D, 22 A, 21 C, 4 E, 21 N, 21 H and 24 A.

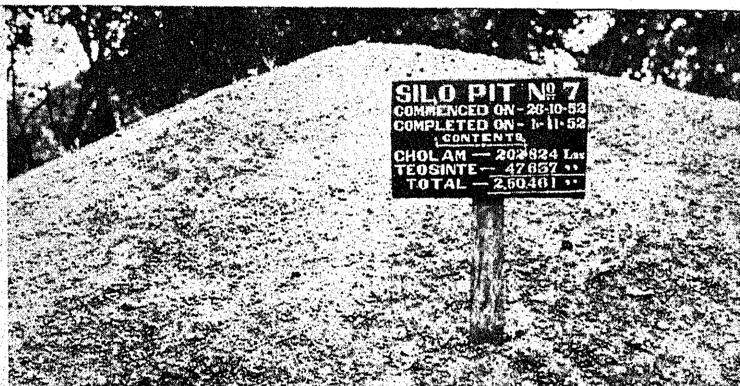
Special buses were run to Kancheepuram, Pulicat, Ennore, Thirupporur, Andarkuppam and Sriperumbudur in connection with various festivals.

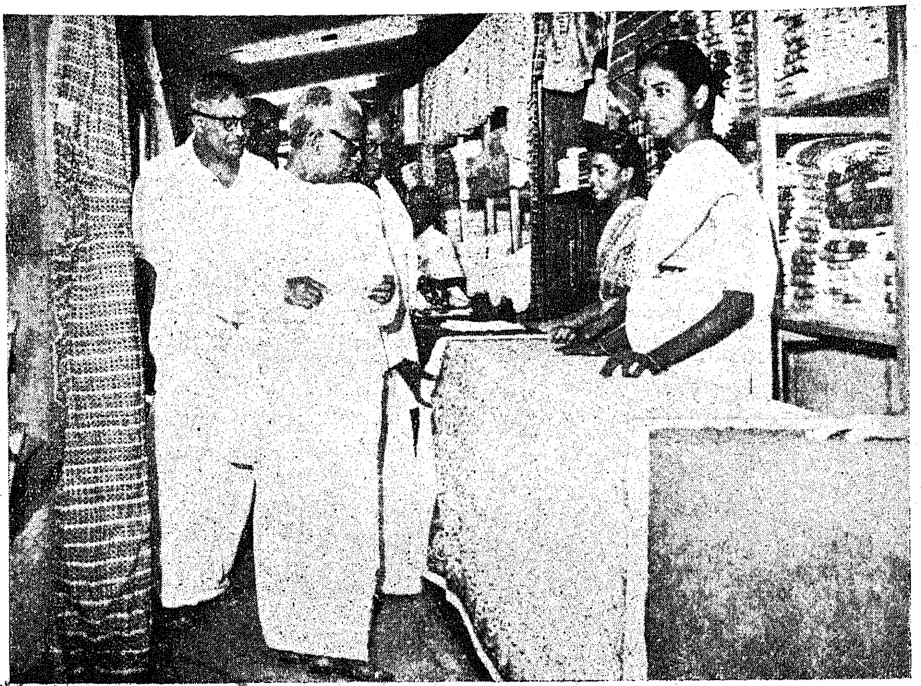
An average number of 338 buses per day covered a total of 1,162,224 miles carrying a total number of 11,194,093 passengers and brought in a total collection of Rs. 14,30,400 in April 1958.

Kanyakumari Branch.

The fleet strength of the Kanykumari Branch was 75 this month and 54 buses were on the roads daily.

Preparation of a silo pit.





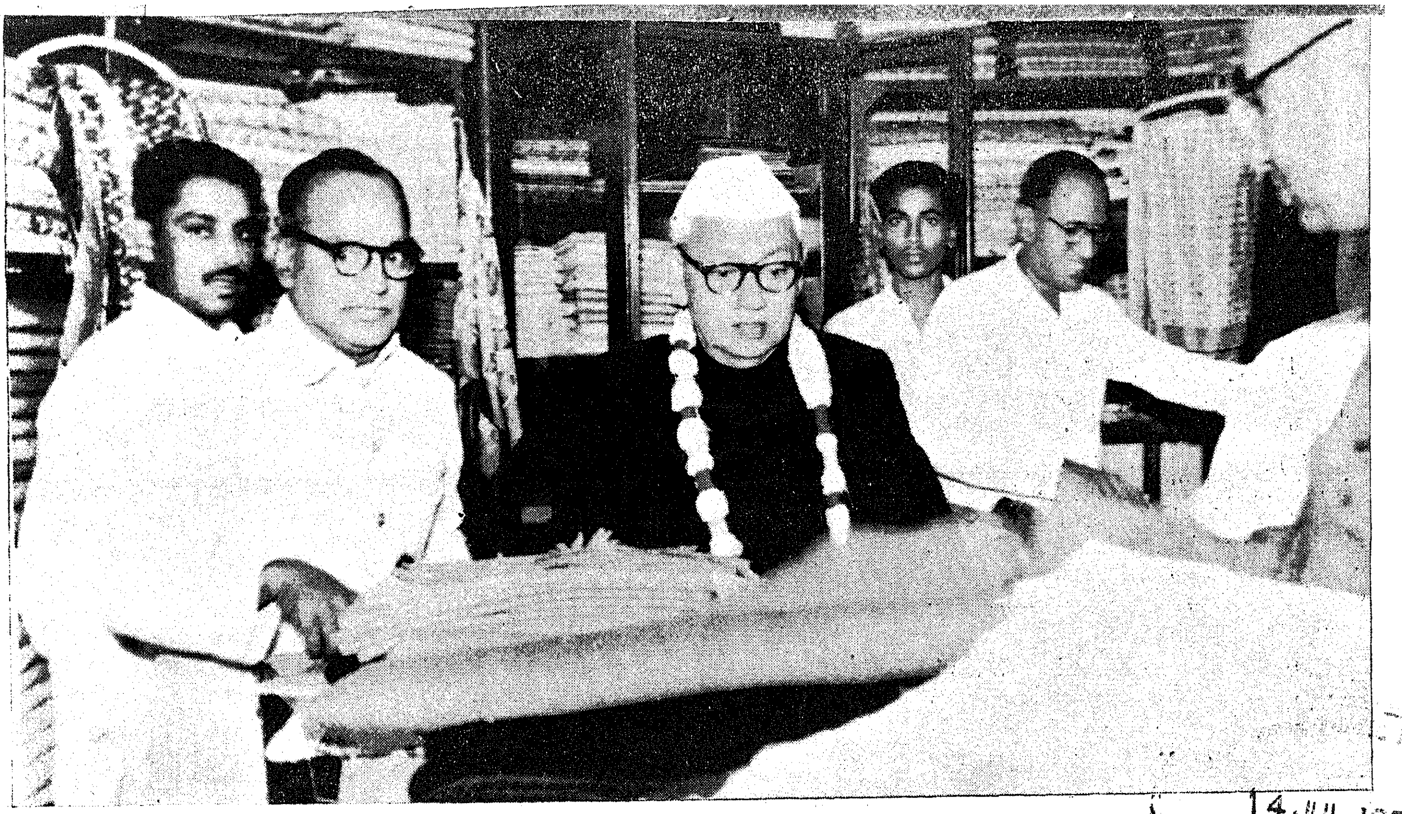
KHADI ON SHOW

Left.—*The Home Minister visited the Khadi Stall at the Madurai Sarvodaya Exhibition.*

Below.—*Exterior view of the Khadi Department Stall at the Madurai Chitrai Exhibition.*

Right.—*The Governor visited the seasonal Government Khadi Sales Depot at Coonoor in May.*

Below right.—*The stall at the Madurai Exhibition where the Gandhigram Design Weaving was put on show.*



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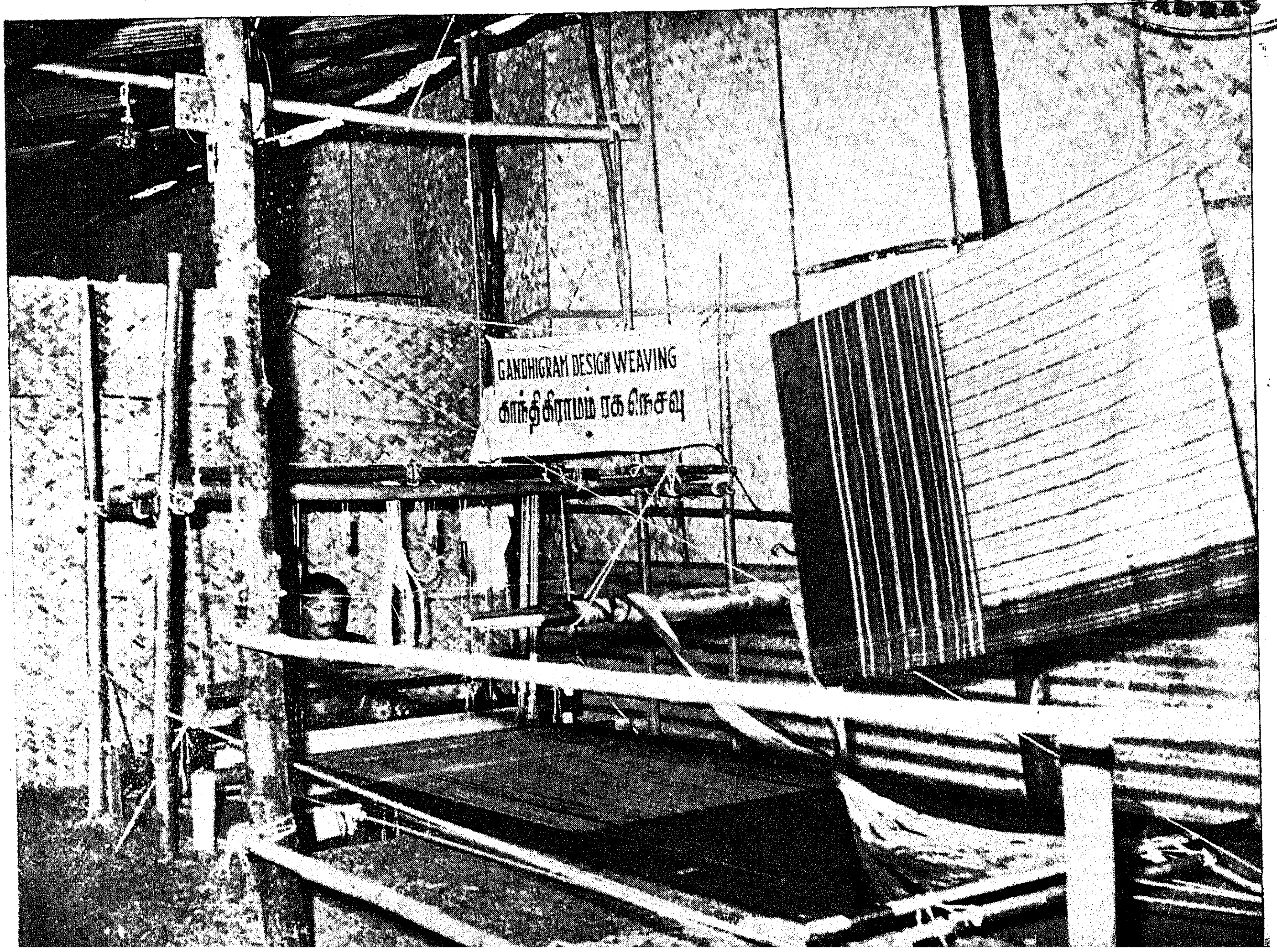


Silvicultural Notes

Nurseries.—Seedlings of the following species have been raised in the nurseries as noted below. The seedlings are mainly intended for research purposes, but small quantities can be supplied to the public on payment for planting:—

(1) *Topslip.*—Terminalia bialata, Cassia slamea, Cinnamomum Camphora, Eucalyptus species.

(2) *Rameswaram.*—Eucalyptus citrodora, Euc. camaldulensis, Euc. hybrid, Cassia siamea, Casuarina equisetifolia, Acacia arabica Albizzia falcata, Eucalyptus salingna, Casuarina cunninghmiana, Casuarina tomex torulosa, etc.

(3) *Markanam.*—Itachi bush clover, Casurina Cunninghamiana, Euc. hybrid, Euc. fudis, euc. Camaldulensis.

(4) *Vemburuli.*—Cassia siamea, Albizzia lebbeck, Acacia Leucophloea, Inga dulce, Bombax malabaricum, Tamarindus Indica, Acaca arabica, Prosopis juliflora, Acacia planiforns, azadirachta indica, acacia ferruginea, Ailanthus excelsa, Dalbergia sissoo and Anacardium occidentale.

(5) *Tanjore.*—Eucalyptus hybrid, E. citriodora, E. canmaldulesis E. rostrata, Swietenia macrophylla, cassia siamea and Ailanthus malabarica.

(6) *Denkanikota.*—Casia siamea, Morus alba, Euc. Camaldulensis, Euc. Citriodora, Anacardium accidentale, Sterculia companulata.

(7) *Ootacamund.*—Eucalyptus camaldulensis, Euc. globulus, Acacia moklissima.

(8) *Ulundurpet.*—Ailanthua excelsa, Dalbergia sissoo, Acacia arabica, Albizzia lebbeck, Cassia siamea, Pithecolobium dulce, Euc. citriodora, Euc. hybrid.

2. *Defoliator attack on Ailanthus excelsa.*—The leaves of Ailanthus excelsa are subject to the attack of the defoliator Elingna norcisus (Noctuidae). The experiment on the spraying of the plants with Jexidol is being carried out at Topslip research Centre. The results are being watched.

3. *Eucalyptus camaldulensis.*—This has been tried in Markanam Research Centre. Plants are raised by planting basket seedlings in I′ cb.s pits. Watering during non-rainy season gives better results. In one year it is capable of giving a height growth of 4·2′ and in two years a height growth of 11·6′. The planting of this a tree by ryots in their waste land is recommended.

4. *Eucalyptus hybrid.*—(*Chikhalpur Variety.*—This plant comes up well in the plain district of Madras State. In Markanam (South Arcot District) plants 3 year old have reached the mean height of 15′ to 40′. It is expected that in 10 years they will be fit for use as fuel and for use as scafolding poles. One acre of plantation is expected to give 30 to 40 tons fuel on a rotation of 10 years. This plant also can be tried by ryots on a large scale in their waste lands. In Rameswaram Island with sandy soil, basket plants are planted in January 1956. These have grown to a mean height of 10′ to in 2 years. This rate of growth is very satisfactory. Private ryots have also planted this species successfully in Rameswaram Island.

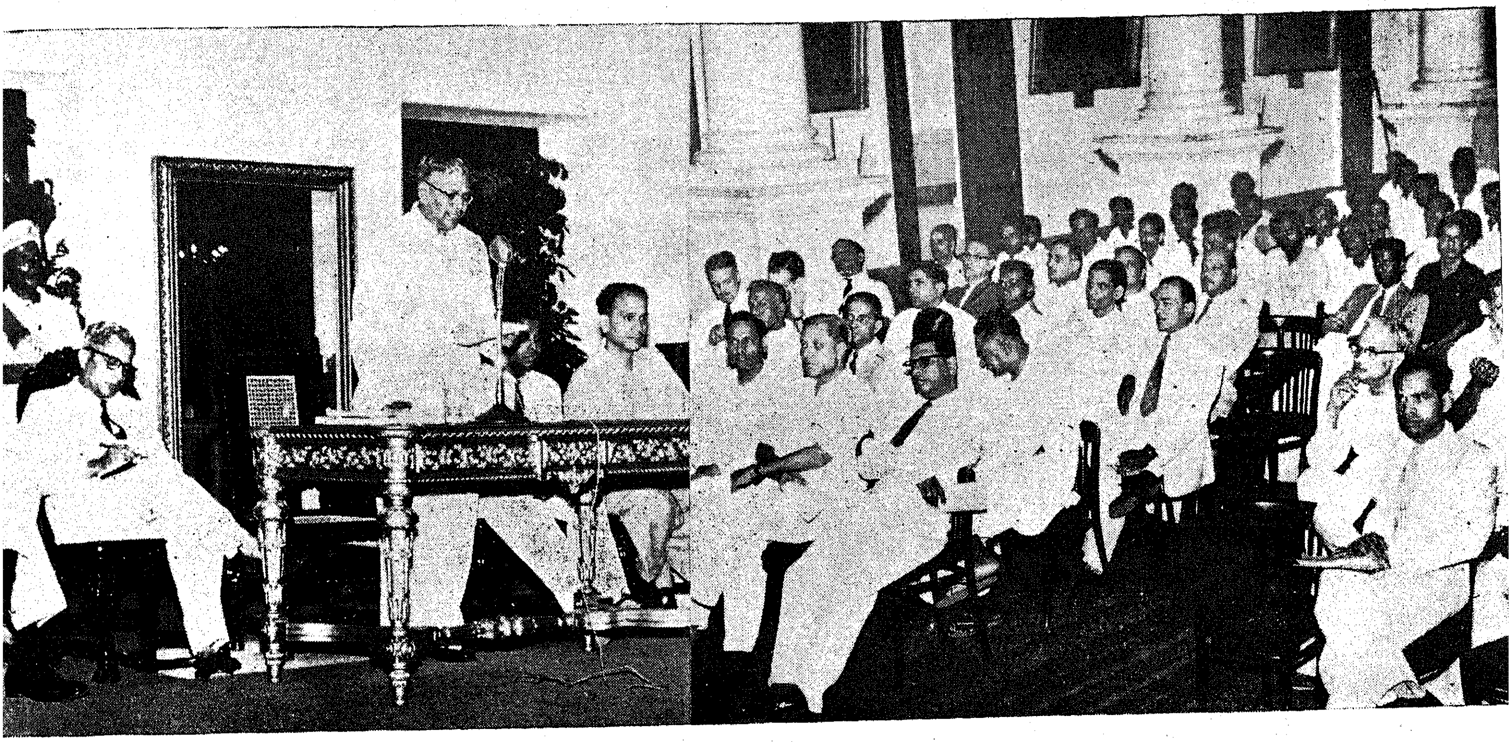
In Vemburuli Research Centre in Madurai district, Eucalyptus hybrid was planted in August 1956. The plants have reached a height of 22′ in 18 months with 83 per cent sot stocking.

5. *Prosopis juliflora.*—Prosopis juliflora in sandy soils.—Prosopis juliflora planted at an espacement of 6′ 3′ in Rameswaram have given almost cent per cent survival with a mean height of 2′ in 6 months. This plant comes up well in all varieties of soil including sandy soils of the coast.

6. *Teak in coastal districts.*—Teak has been successfully raised with watering in the Markanam Research Garden in South Arcot District. Planting was commenced in the year 1956 and continued in 1957. One year old plants are 10″ in height and two year old plants are 36″ in height. The plants were introduced by planting stumps in crow bar holes at an espacement of 6′ 6′.

Teak in Tanjore district.—The oldest Teak Plantation in the Tanjore district is found near the Korayar head. These were introduced in 1873 and are therefore 85 years old now. The average girth of the trees is 8′ 7″ corresponding to All-India Site quality I for Teak, as regards girth increment. Planting was done in the Vennar-Vettar Regulator area about the year 1924. In 33 years the trees grew to a height of 35′—40′ and a mean girth of 4′ 2″. This growth corresponds to All-India Site Quality I as regards girth increment and All-India Site Quality IV as regards height increment. It can therefore be stated with confidence that teak can be successfully raised in the Tanjore district.

The Home Minister inaugurated the Rural Water-supply Scheme in Singaperumalkoil.



The Madras Centre of the Productivity Council was inaugurated by the Industries Minister at Rajaji Hall in May.

Planting of teak.—Planting of teak was started by the Forest Department along the irrigation channels and river banks in Tanjore district in 1957 and continued during 1958. One year old plants have reached a height of 4′. The ryots in Tanjore district have also done a lot of planting in recent years in their own private lands successfully.

7. *Cashew plantation in Madras State.*—Under the Second Five-Year Plan the Madras Forest Department is creating thousands of acres of cashew-nut plantations in the Chingleput and South Arcot districts. The method adopted is to sow the seed in situ at an especement of $16\frac{1}{2}' \times 33'$ (80 plants per acre) supplemented by planting basket deelings raised in Bamboo basket. The average cost of the planting per acre comes to Rs. 30. The plantations are expected to art start flowering and yelding nuts in the third year. Appreciable yields can be got from the 5th year onwards and the plantations will come into full bearing after the 10th year. This is probably the most valuable species for being grown by the ryots in their waste lands which are not fit for raising agricultural crops. This is a valuable export crop, which earns much needed dollars at the present time.

The new N.E.S. Block at Singaperumalkoil was inaugurated by the Minister for Home on 15th June 1958. *The Minister is going round the exhibition got up in connection with the inauguration.*

Panchayat Elections.

Elections in 1,149 Panchayats, with 3,644 wards and 11,825 seats, have been held up to 3rd May 1958. The elections commenced on 7th April 1958. In 771 Panchayat there was no contest in any of the component wards, while in 299 Panchayats, only a few wards in each were contested. The number of wards which returned its representatives uncontested was 2,931, i.e., only in 713 wards the seats were contested.

In the Month of June . . .

June 1.—The first meeting of the reconstituted State Handloom Committee was held at the Secretariat today with the Minister for Industries in the Chair.

June 4.—The Vice-President of India inaugurated today at Vellore the new building for the North Arcot District Co-operative Supply and Marketing Society.

June 5.—Provident Fund-cum-Insurance-cum-Pension Scheme has been ordered to be extended to all categories of teachers in Secondary Schools and teachers in other special schools recognized by the Madras Education Department.

June 7.—The Government have sanctioned establishment of a saw-mill and seasoning unit, a cycle assembly unit, and a common lease shop at the Guindy Industrial Estate.

The cut in industrial consumption of electricity in the Hydel Area was increased to 75 per cent.

June 8.—The City experienced sharp thundershowers accompanied by gusty winds after a hot spell.

June 9.—A co-operative fish godown was inaugurated at Adyar by Srimathi Lourdhammal Simon, Minister in charge of Fisheries.

June 10.—The Government have ordered full supply of water in the main canal of the Manimuthar Project.

June 13.—The Government have extended the educational concession applicable to "Most Backward Classes" to members of these communities in respective of their religion.

June 15.—The Governor of Madras starts to-day on a 5-day tour of the Coimbatore district.

The Singaperumalkoil Block of the Chingleput N.E.S. was inaugurated by Sri M. Bakthavatsalam, Home Minister.

June 16.—Sri V. T. Krishnamachari, Deputy Chaiman, Planning Commission, held informal discussions with the State Ministers and officials at the Secretariat on the working of the Plan.

Community Project Prize Scheme.

The Government have constituted a State Level Judging Committee to select the best Village Level Worker and the best Village in the State in connection with the All-India Prize Competititon Scheme announced earlier. The Committee will consist of the Development Commissioner as Chairman, the Additional Development Commissioner, the Joint Development Commissioner, the Director of Statistics, Sri R. Krishnaswami Naidu, M.L.A. and Dr. (Srimathi) T. S. Soundaram Ramachandran, M.L.A., as Members. The District Level Committees will intimate the name of the best Village Level Worker and best Village in the district concerned to the Government before 15th October 1958. The State Level Judging Committee will select the best Village Level Worker and the best Village among those recommended by the District Level Committees and intimate the names to the Government of India before 31st October 1958.

Vanamahotsavam.

Vanamahotsava Celebrations this year will concentrate on developing farm forests. Such forests, it is felt, are urgently to be developed to assure villagers locally of their own day-to-day requirments of forests products, and at the same time free them from their present dependance of the State forests. As in the previous years, Vanamahotsava Week will be celebrated in two instalments of one week's duration commencing from 1st July and 2nd October 1958. The Director of Agriculture and the Chief Conservator of Forests have been asked to arrange for raising seeds and seedlings in good quantity for issue to the public in connection with the tree panting this year. Care will also be taken to see that the trees planted do not die by any neglect, and stress will be laid on the fact that survival is far more important than the number of trees planted.

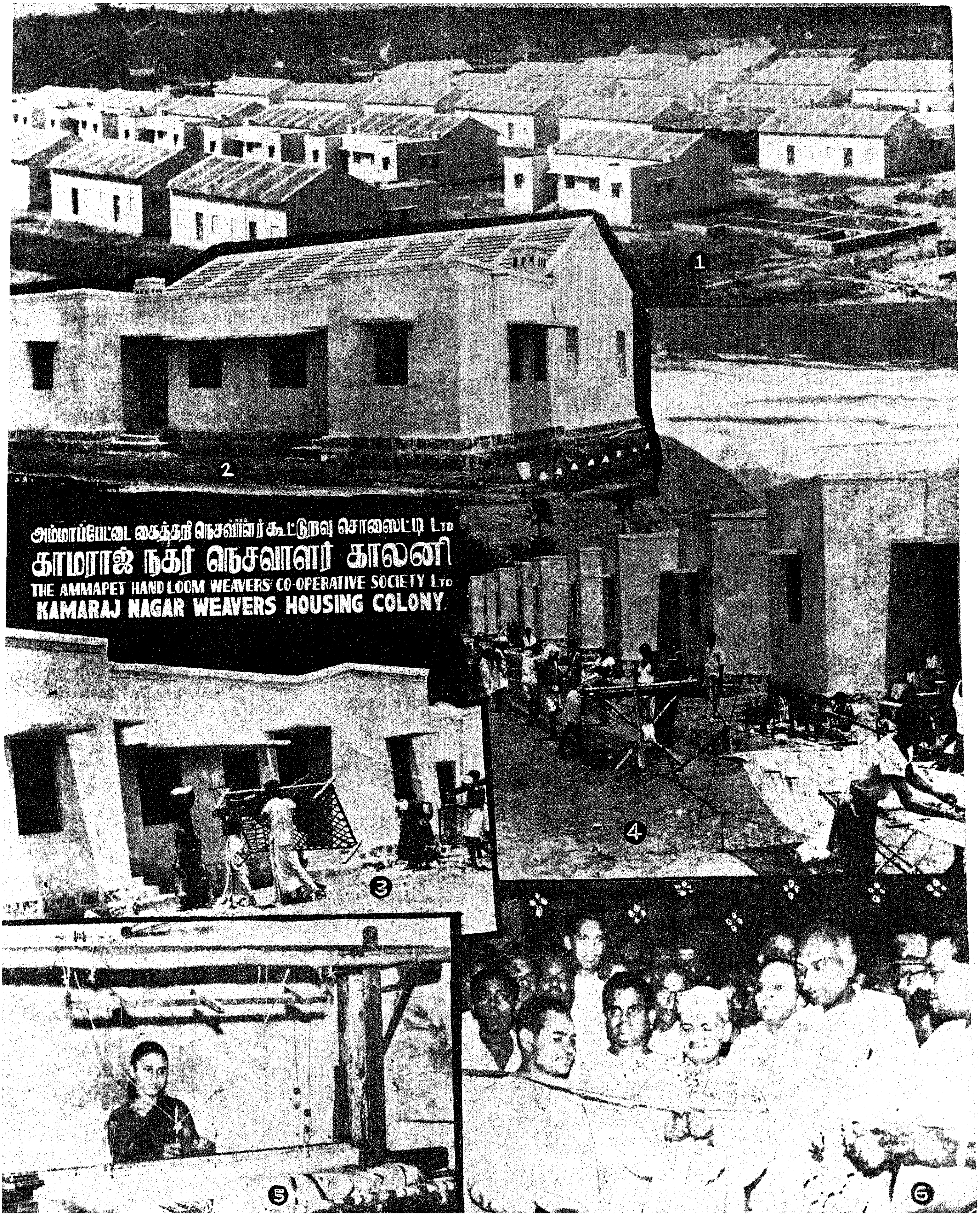
Kamaraj Nagar.

The 'Kamaraj Nagar Weavers' Colony' in the Salem district was inaugurated by Sri Lal Bahadur Shastry, Union Minister for Commerce and Industry on the 22nd May 1958. The State Chief Minister, Sri K. Kamaraj presided over the function.

This colony was constructed by the Ammapet Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Production and Sale Society, financed from the Cess Fund by way of loans and grants. One third of the loan is disbursed as first instalment before construction is taken up. The ceiling cost per house sanctioned in the Scheme is Rs. 3,600. Loan has been sanctioned for provision of common amenities and facilities.

For each weaver colonist a subsidy of Rs. 500 is granted for the installation of a semi-automatic loom. The weaver colonists are obliged to repay the loan sanctioned to them in the scheme in 25 equal instalments. Two hundred such houses have been constructed.

The photographs on the facing page show the Colony, the houses and the happy inhabitants moving in.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KAMARAJ NAGAR WEAVERS HOUSING COLONY.
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The State Warehousing Corporation

In Madras, the Government set up the State Warehousing Corporation in December, 1957 under the Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporations' Act with an initial share capital of Rs. 20 lakhs, half of which was subscribed by the Government and the other half was subscribed by the Central Warehousing Corporation. The Board of Directors of the Corporation was constituted in March 1958 with the Secretary to Government, Department of Industries, Labour and Co-operation as the Chairman. The functions of the Corporation are :

(*a*) to acquire and build godowns and warehouses at such places within the State as it may, in consultation with the Central Warehousing Corporation, determine ;

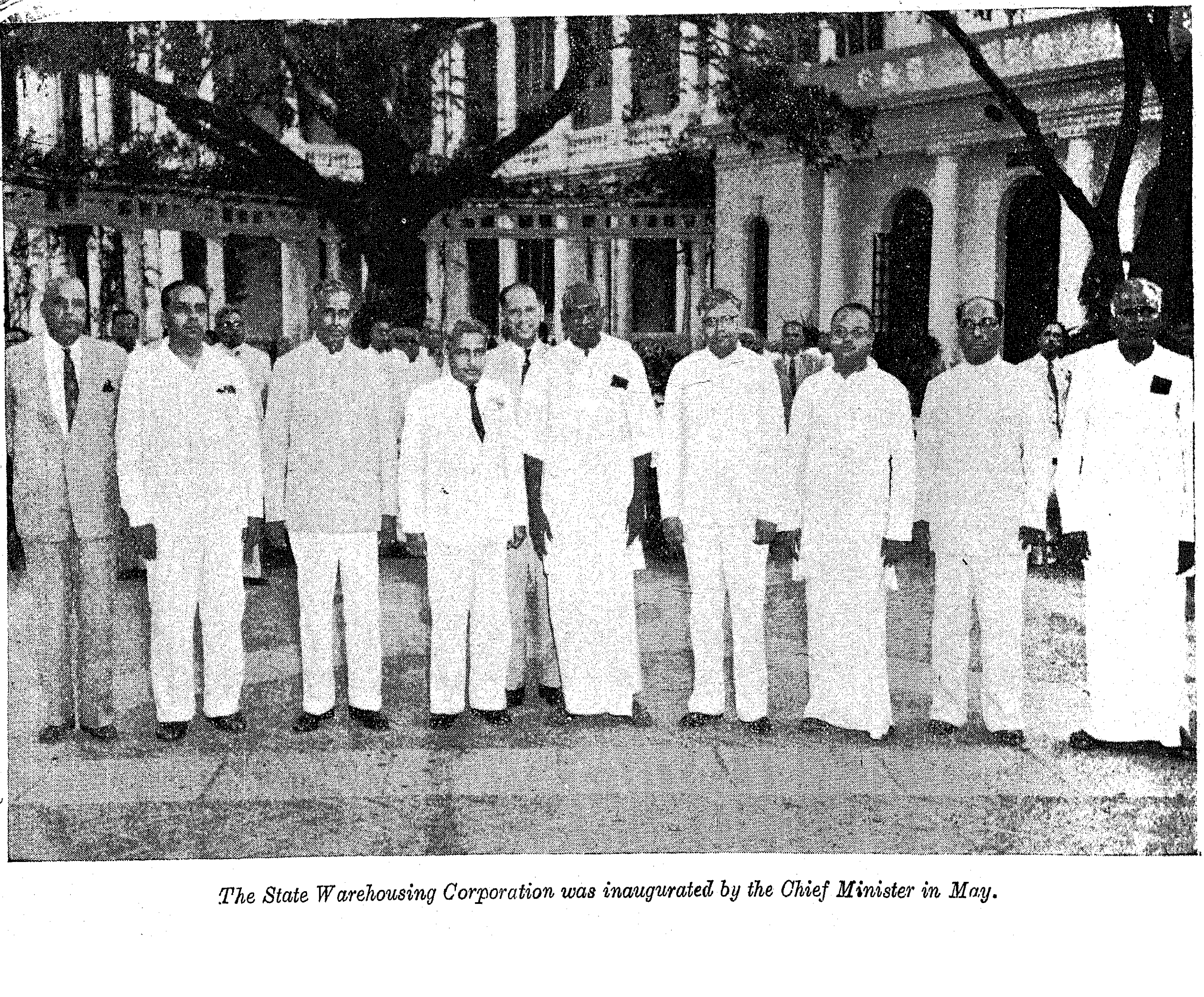
(*b*) to run warehouses in the State for the storage of agricultural produce, seeds, manure, fertilisers and agricultural implements ;

(*c*) to subscribe to the share capital of co-operative societies engaged in the storage or warehousing of agricultural produce ;

(*d*) to arrange facilities for the transport of agricultural produce to and from warehouse ; and

(*e*) act as an agent of the Central Warehousing Corporation or of the Government for the purposes of the purchase, sale, storage and distribution of agricultural produce, seeds, manures, fertilisers and agricultural implements.

The first meeting of the Board of Directors of the Corporation has taken place this afternoon. The Corporation is expected to embark on its programme of warehousing in the State very soon. During the Second Five-Year Plan period, it will construct 11 warehouses at important trade centres in the State, namely, Oottacamund, Salem, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli, Madurai, Vriddhachalam, Rajapalayam, Pollachi, Kancheepuram, Nagapattinam and Vellore. Besides these State Warehouses, the Central Warehousing Corporation will put up warehouses in 5 centres in the State, viz., Madras Kumbakonam, Cuddalore, Coimbatore and Virudhunagar. During the current year which is the third year of the plan period, the State Corporation has proposed to construct werehouses in six centres namely, Ootacamund Salem, Tiruchirappalli Tirunelveli, Madurai and Vriddhachalam. Sites for construction



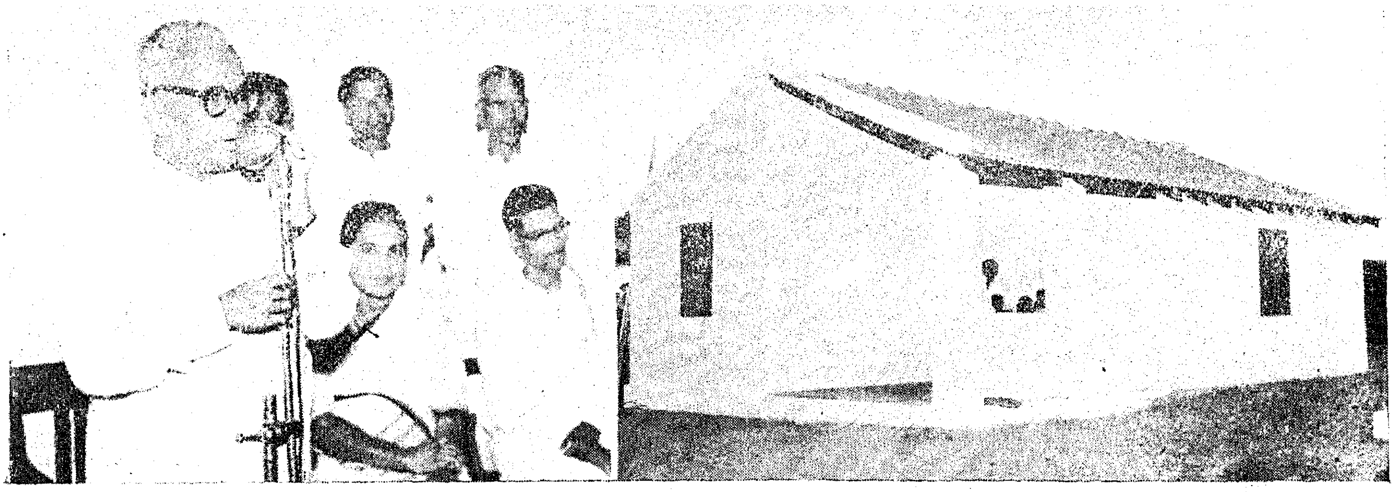
The State Warehousing Corporation was inaugurated by the Chief Minister in May.

of warehouses have already been selected in four centres. Pending the construction of warehouses in the six centres, the Corporation has proposed to run warehouses in hired accommodation. These warehouses will be licensed under the Madras Warehouses Act, 1951.

There is no doubt that with the establishment of warehouses by the Warehousing Corporation at the centres selected, the State will enter on a new era of agricultural prosperity. For under the warehousing scheme, the agriculturists and the traders will be able not only to store goods in scientifically run warehouses, but also to get advances from banks for a substantial portion of the value of their goods to meet their urgent needs. The warehouse receipts issued by the licensed warehouses are recognised as negotiable instruments under the Warehouses Act and the depositor of goods in a licensed warehouse can secure credit in any bank on the pledge of the warehouse receipt without selling his goods. The warehouses that will be set up in the State will thus promote orderly marketing of agricultural commodities, strengthen the holding power and bargaining position of the cultivator, finance agricultural produce and reduce seasonal fluctuations in agricultural prices.

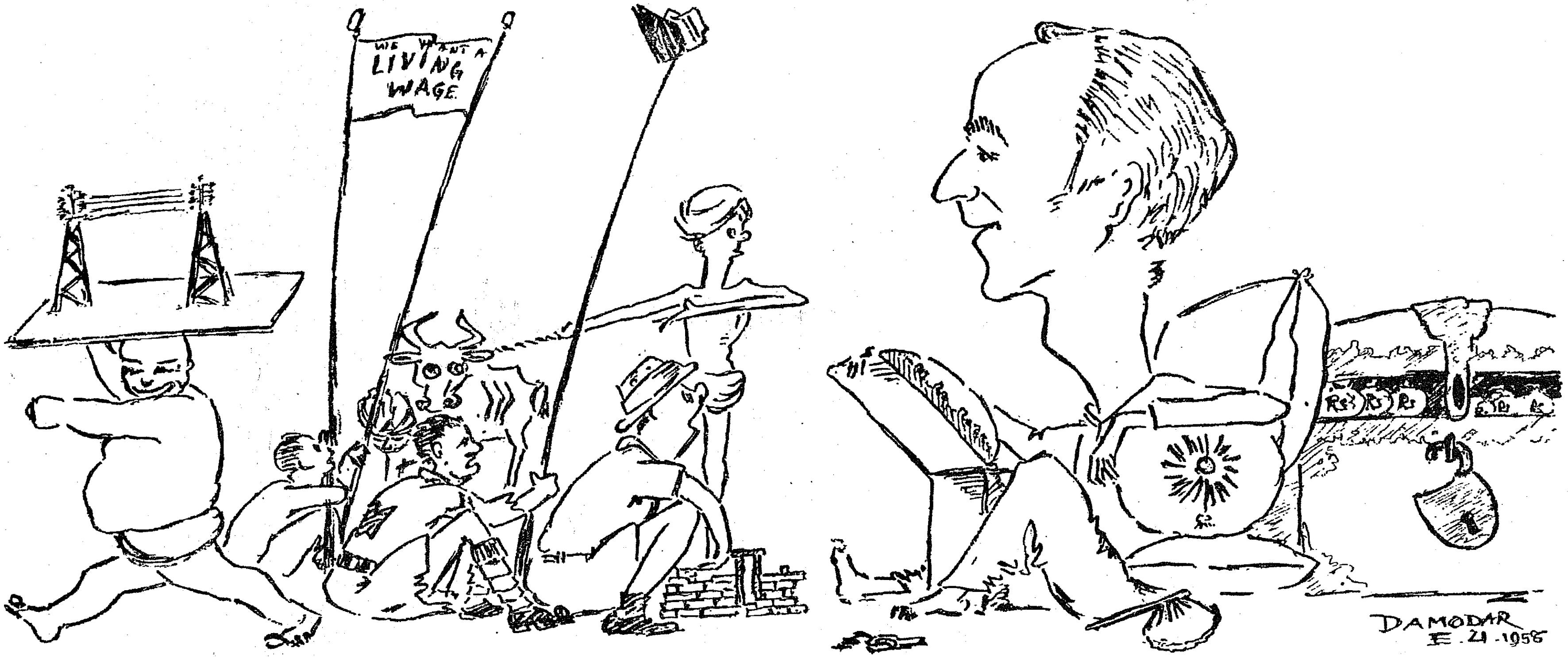
The establishment of the Corporation is indeed a land-mark in the economic progress of the State. One of the drawbacks of our agricultural economy is the absence of facilities for storage of agricultural produce on scientific lines and the agriculturists prefer to sell their produce immediately after the harvest in a glutted market even at a low price in the absence of proper storage facilities provided by any of agencies engaged in agricultural marketing. Even the existing storage arrangements are not satisfactor y and do not provide adequate protection against damage by insects. rodents, mo sture, etc. In the case of food grains, it has been estimated that losses in storage amount to about 3 million tons per year. Besides offering storage facilities on scientific lines, warehousing provides an effective means of developing agricultural credit. Several committees and Commissions stresses the importance of warehousing in saving agricultural produce from decay and providing marketing finance to the agriculturists.

The Rural Credit Survey Committee set up by the Reserve Bank of India recommended the establishment of warehouses throughout the country in its scheme of integrated rural credit and marketing and accordingly provision has been made in the Second Five-Year Plan for the development of ware housing in the country. The Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporations Act which was passed by Parliament in 1956 provides for the setting up of a National Co-Operative Development and Warehousing Board for promoting the planned development throughout the country of production, processing, marketing, storage and warehousing of agricultural produce through co-operative societies and Warehousing Corporations a Central Warehousing Corporation at the National level and the State Warehousing Corporations in each State for construction and provision of warehousing facilities on scientific lines throughout the country. During the Second Five-Year Plan period, the Central Warehousing Corporation will set up 100 warehouses at trade centres of All Ind a importance while the State Ware-housing Corporations will establish 250 warehouses at trade centres of State importance. In order to complete the chain of storage facilities in the country from the lowest level upwards, Government will assist co-operative societies with loans and subsidies to set up warehouses and godown at centres below the sub-divisional level where no warehouses are run by the Warehousing Corporations. It is expected that additional storage accommodation of about 3 million tons will become available during the Second Five-Year Plan period as a result of the efforts made by co-operative societies and Warehousing Corporations to set up warehouses.



A co-operative fish godown was inaugurated by the Fisheries Minister, Smt. Lourdhammal Simon near Adyar on 8th June 1958. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Home Minister, presided.

GALLERY OF "PAPER GODS" OF THE SECRETARIAT—



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Sri T. A. VARGHESE, I.C.S., *Secretary to the Government, Finance Department.*

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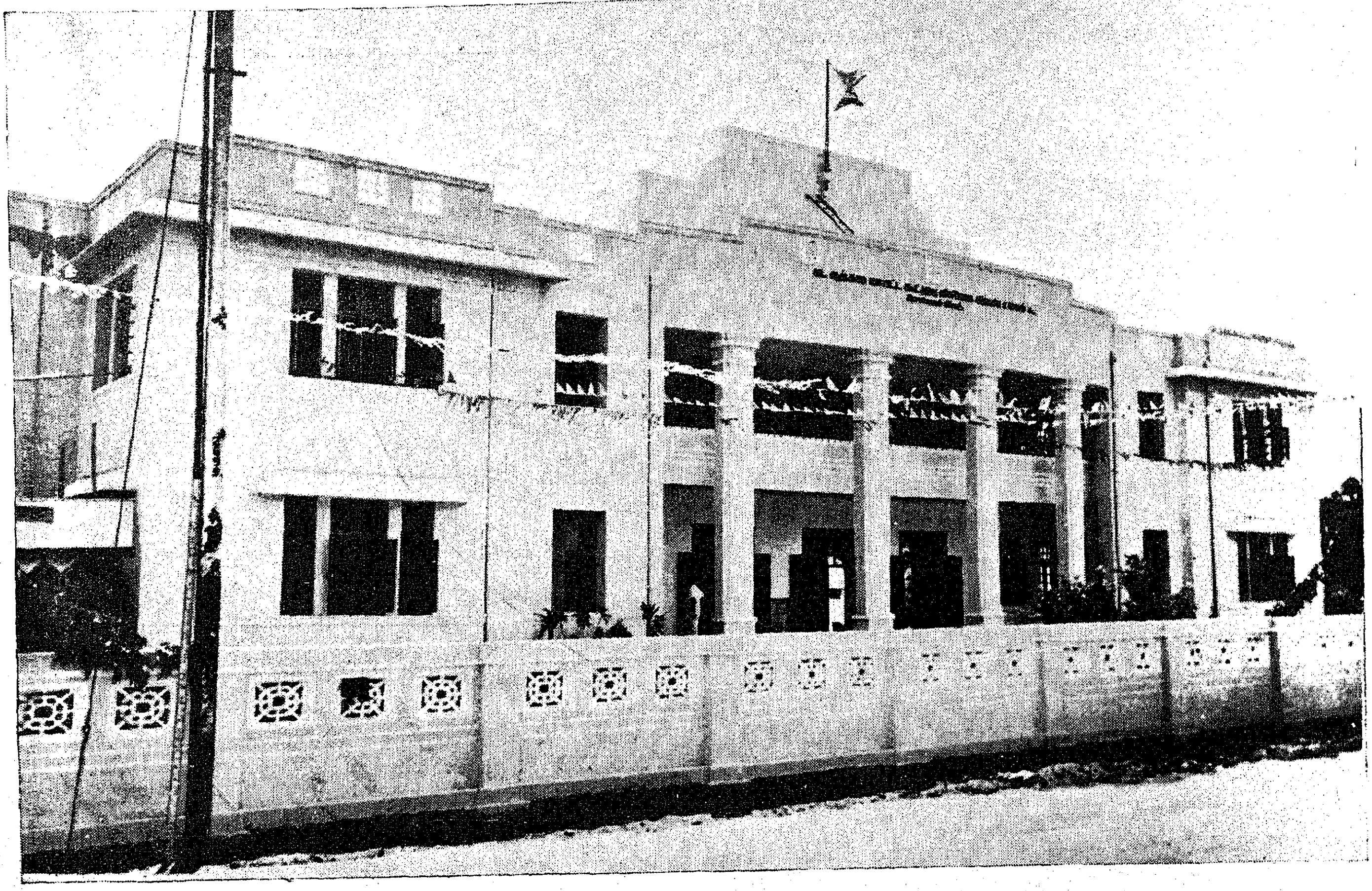
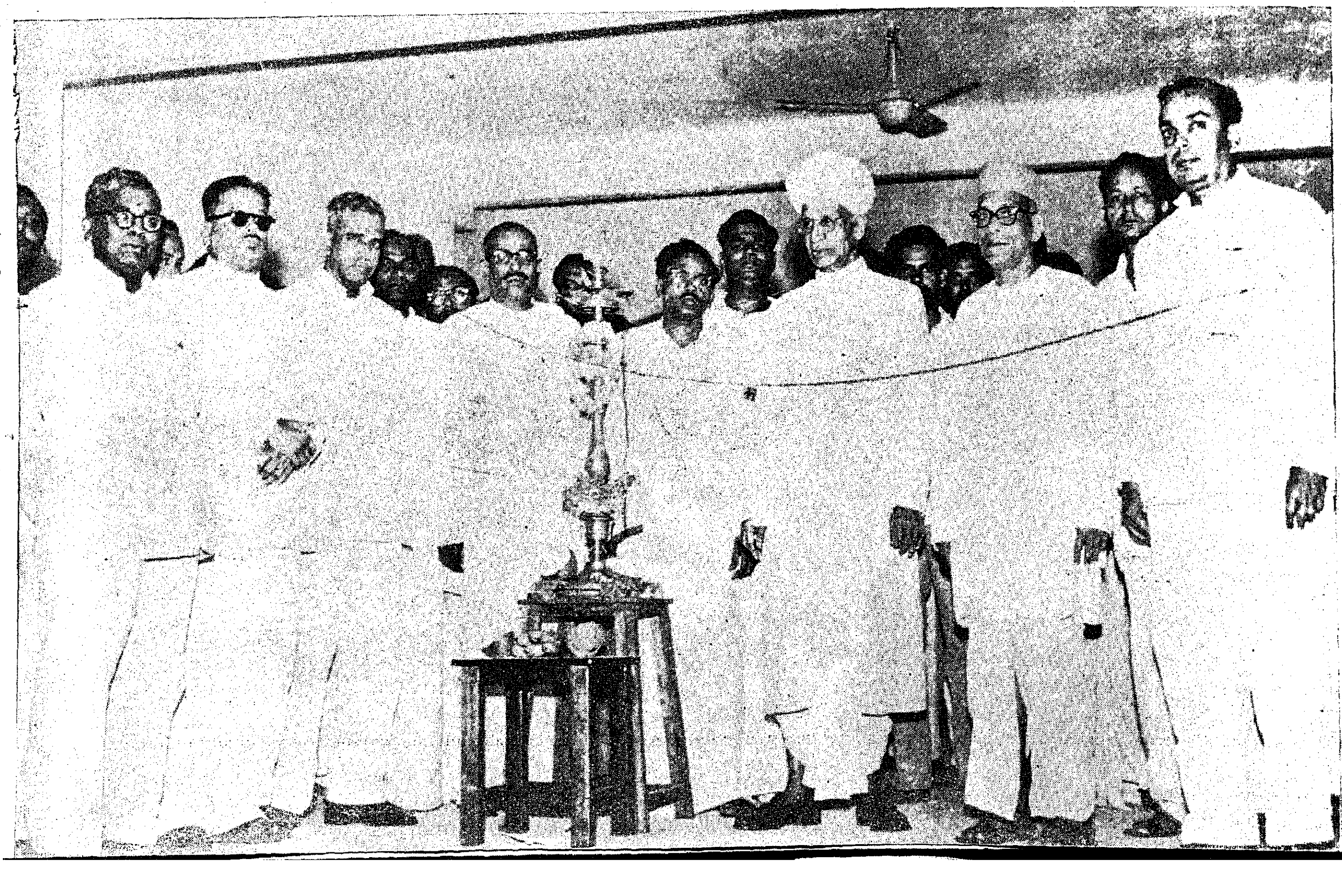
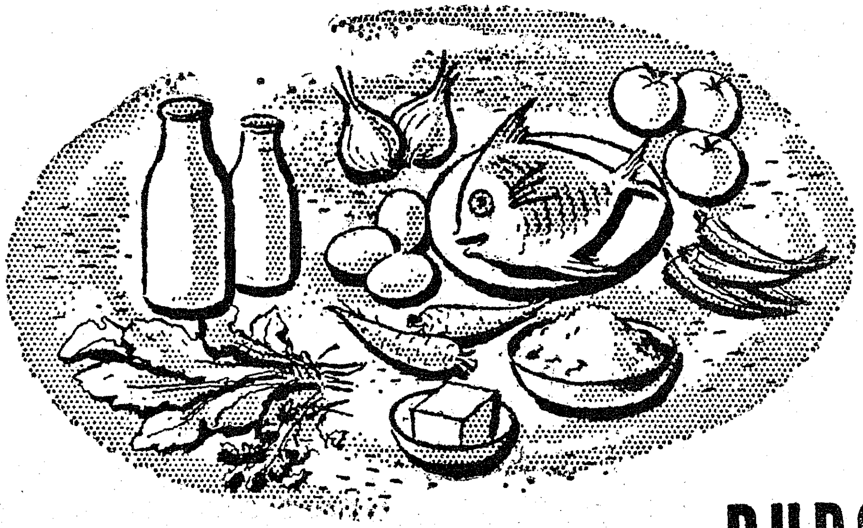


The new building of the North Arcot District Co-operative Marketing and Supply Society which was declared open by the Vice-President of India at Vellore.

The Indian Vice-President and the State Revenue Minister with the Members of the Society.



Balance your DIET...



and your BUDGET

In these hard days, a balanced diet and a balanced budget seldom go hand in hand as a matter of course. But, with care, they can. Take your diet, of which fats are a necessary and valuable part. India's cattle cannot provide anywhere near the amount of milk products needed to give every adult and growing child their basic need of two ounces of fat per day. And even if it were possible, good ghee and butter would be beyond the reach of the average person's purse.

Now take your budget. All over the world, diet-conscious people faced with the rising cost of living are cooking with wholesome vegetable fats—margarine, shortening and vanaspati—as a good means of keeping meals nourishing and tasty. Besides being good for our health, these vegetable cooking media are economical—a double advantage to the family budget.

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Correction of Delinquent Children

Through the four Government Certified Schools and nine private Certified Schools, the authorities implementing the Madras Children Act, have put through a judicious programme of Physical and mental growth for the 3,157 pupils who were in these schools during the year 1956. The daily average number of pupils was 2,890·94 after taking into account the admissions and discharges during the year. The cost per head per annum in respect of the Government Certified Schools ranged from Rs. 323 at Tanjore to Rs. 478 in the case of the Girls' Certified School, Madras, and the total expenditure on these four institutions including the Reception Homes in Madras came to Rs. 8·89 lakhs. A well systematised plan of moral and religious instruction has been chalked out to instil into their minds, their loyalty, to the home, school and society at large and the necessity of their accepting the established conventions and rules of the State. These instructions, together with the 'law classes' which are meant to educate them on the punishments for various crimes and offences, have succeeded in reforming and rehabilitating 60 per cent of the pupils and enabled them to take their proper place in society according to the after-care reports received during the year.

Out of 1,155 pupils received by direct committal in all the certified schools, 263 were ordered to be detained for a period not exceeding two years. 224 for over two years and not exceedin three years, 210 above three years and not exceeding four years, 149 above four years and not exceeding five years, 235 above five years and not exceeding ten years and 74 above ten years.

Apart from being educated, the pupils received training in a vocation of their choice during their stay. Special attention was paid to physical training and healthy outdoor games. Training in Ambulance, First Aid and Scouting continued to be given to the pupils.

The year under report witnessed a determined drive in the direction of the intensification of the industries in Government Certified Schools in general and of the carpentry section in the Senior Certified School at Chingleput and the Junior Certified School at Tanjore in particular and in the expansion of the Dairy Farming in the former school and book-binding in the latter one, which are already yielding appreciable results. The receipts by the hire of the band troupes in the schools continued to be satisfactory and amounted to Rs. 1,655. The total receipts of the industrial sections in all Government Certified Schools amounted to Rs. 41,000. The target aimed at is to see that the receipts cover at least 20 per cent of the expenditure in running the institutions in the next few years.

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